

Hartford

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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Senate extends school mask mandate

GOP amendment that would allow parents to make decision rejected

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — After clashing for five hours, the state Senate voted Monday to extend Gov. Ned Lamont's mask mandate in schools and other executive orders that had been scheduled to expire Tuesday. Democrats who control the

chamber said the mask mandate will now expire Feb. 28 — and local school boards will have the authority going forward on masks. The measure passed 21-14 on mostly party lines with Democratic Sen. Cathy Osten of Sprague breaking with her party and voting with Republicans against the bill. Lawmakers also approved a separate resolution to extend the public health and civil preparedness emergencies for the state until June 30, which guarantees more than \$30 million per month in additional benefits for food stamps

for needy families. Legislators did not, however, extend the special powers that Lamont has had for nearly two years. "It does not grant the governor any powers," said Sen. Matt Lesser, a Middletown Democrat who led the debate. "We are reclaiming the legislature's authority. ... We all want the pandemic to end. We are all exhausted." The Democratic-controlled Senate also rejected an amendment Monday that would have

Turn to Senate, Page 3



State Sens. Rob Sampson and Cathy Osten speak inside the Senate chamber, where lawmakers debated extending the state's public health and civil preparedness emergencies. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

"All these victims were doing ordinary, basic things and lost their lives while doing just that. Basic things. Cooking dinner. Excitedly waiting to go to the corner store for a treat. Lying in bed, asleep."

— Janet Rice, CT Against Gun Violence



Janet Rice, Community Outreach Coordinator for Connecticut Against Gun Violence, whose son died of gun violence nine years ago, speaks on the steps of the state Capitol in Hartford on Monday. The rally was held on the ninth anniversary of the March for Change Rally that occurred following the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

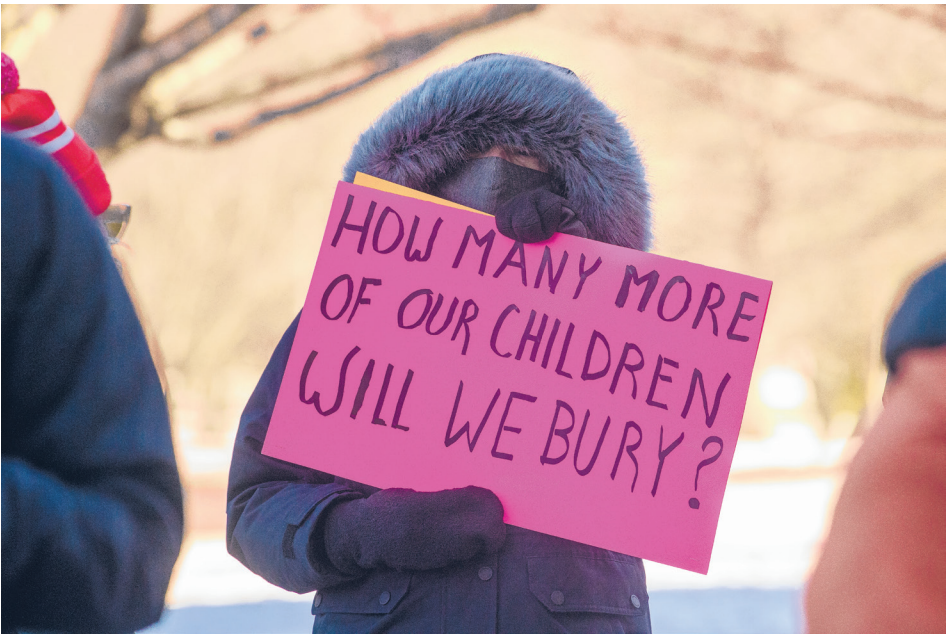
Hartford rally highlights calls to address violence

On Parkland shooting anniversary, activists gather at state Capitol

By Eliza Fawcett
Hartford Courant

On a day heavy with loss, a group of activists crowded the steps of the state Capitol in Hartford, calling attention to the gun violence crisis that persists in cities across Connecticut and urging greater support for violence mediation programs. "We stand here today because of the mass shootings in the country, but we have a bigger problem, and that problem is the shootings that we see every day in our communities," Marlene Pratt, whose son was fatally shot in New Haven

Turn to Rally, Page 3



Braving single digit temperatures, a demonstrator attends a rally Monday on the steps of the state Capitol.

\$500K launches CT super PAC

GOP heavyweight kicks in to target statewide offices

By Mark Pazniokas
CT Mirror

A new independent expenditure group, CT Truth PAC Inc., came to life over the weekend with a \$500,000 contribution by David Kelsey, the GOP town chair of Old Lyme and a longtime donor to Republicans. Organization papers filed with the State Elections Enforcement Commission confine the PAC to independent spending on races for governor and the five other statewide constitutional offices. While state law prohibits direct contributions of more than \$3,500 to a gubernatorial campaign and \$10,000 to a state party, there is no limit on contributions to independent groups known as super PACs. The ambitions for CT Truth PAC are unclear: Neither Kelsey nor the PAC's chair, Sergio Mangione of East Haven, responded Sunday to requests for comment. Notice of Kelsey's initial contribution was filed Saturday. Last year, Kelsey gave \$109,500 to the Republican National Committee and \$10,000 to the state party's federal account. Over the past decade, he has given more than \$160,000 to local and state GOP committees and campaigns. Long a factor in presidential politics, super PACs came of age in Connecticut gubernatorial politics in 2018, with the campaigns of three Republican candidates supplemented by dedicated independent expenditures. One donor, Reverse Anselmo, spent more than \$2 million in 2018 on behalf of Bob

Turn to Super PAC, Page 2

High-speed internet in Hartford neighborhood could spark economic growth

High-speed fiber internet lines — a critical building block for economic growth — is coming to a major business corridor in Hartford's Northeast neighborhood where business owners have long complained about spotty or even non-existent broadband access. **Connecticut, Page 1**

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Hartford HealthCare fined over maternity closure

System to pay \$65,000 for prematurely halting services at Windham

By Alex Puttermann
Hartford Courant

Hartford HealthCare has been fined \$65,000 as a penalty for ceasing labor and delivery services at Windham Hospital before filing the necessary documents with the state, Connecticut's Office of Health Strategy announced

Monday. In a letter sent to Hartford HealthCare on Monday, OHS alleged the health system had intentionally skirted rules requiring providers to seek approval before terminating services. The agency concluded that Hartford HealthCare had stopped delivering babies at Windham Hospital in June 2020, more than two months before filing a Certificate of Need application, as part of a plan to permanently close the maternity ward there.

As a result, the system will be required to pay a \$65,000 fine, equating to \$1,000 for each day the certificate was overdue. The fine comes amid a broader dispute over whether Hartford HealthCare will be permitted to permanently end labor and delivery services at Windham Hospital. The health system, which operates seven hospitals across the state, has proposed sending pregnant patients in northeast Connecticut to Backus Hospital in Norwich, about 30 minutes away

from Windham. In an email Monday, Hartford HealthCare spokesperson Tina Varona said the health system's priority is receiving a ruling from OHS on whether it will be able to move forward with that plan. "While we disagree with the penalty, we are committed to working with OHS to bring our application to a decision in a timely manner," Varona said. "We await OHS's determination of our

Turn to Fine, Page 2

FROM PAGE ONE

State places daughter of former official on leave

Investigation underway into her hiring

By Andrew Brown
CT Mirror

Anastasia Diamantis, the daughter of former state deputy budget director Kosta Diamantis, has been placed on administrative leave following an investigation into her hiring at the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice.

A letter obtained by the CT Mirror through the state's Freedom of Information Act shows that Anastasia Diamantis was placed on paid leave on Feb. 4, two days after state officials released a report that raised questions about how she obtained her position as an assistant with the state's top prosecutor.

That report, which was assembled by former U.S.

Attorney Stanley Twardy Jr., found that Richard Colangelo Jr., Connecticut's Chief State's Attorney, hired Anastasia Diamantis at the same time that he was pushing her father for pay increases within the Division of Criminal Justice.

Twardy's team of investigators questioned the circumstances in which Colangelo first met Anastasia Diamantis, and the report said the explanations that Colangelo, Anastasia Diamantis and Kosta Diamantis gave to investigators were not seen as "credible."

Anastasia Diamantis was informed in the letter on Feb. 4 that she would remain on administrative leave until the Division of Criminal Justice can fully review the allegations included in Twardy's report.

Following that review, officials at the Division of Criminal Justice explained that she could be removed from her state job, which pays roughly \$99,000 per year.

It's unclear how long it will take for the Division of Criminal Justice to review Anastasia Diamantis's actions and decide whether she remains on the state payroll.

Alaine Griffin, the spokeswoman for the Division of Criminal Justice, said the division did not have any further comment on the employment matter.

Anastasia Diamantis is not the only person whose job prospects have been affected by the investigation, which began last year.

Kosta Diamantis stepped down from his

government job as the state's second-highest budget official in October 2021 after Gov. Ned Lamont placed him on administrative leave.

That decision was made after Lamont's administration was subpoenaed by a federal grand jury for records related to Kosta Diamantis and his oversight of school construction projects and the State Pier project in New London.

Colangelo, who served as a prosecutor with the Division of Criminal Justice for 29 years, also sent a letter to the state's Criminal Justice Commission last week announcing that he would retire in order to avoid a highly publicized hearing into his alleged actions.

In that case, Colangelo maintained that he did nothing wrong by

hiring Anastasia Diamantis, but he said he would step down at the end of March in order to prevent the Division of Criminal Justice from being further entangled in the "imbroglio."

As part of his retirement, Colangelo will be eligible for two state pension plans that will pay him a combined \$93,720 annually, according to state records.

A federal grand jury is also investigating how Anastasia Diamantis was hired by a construction management firm that received two no-bid state contracts in a process overseen by Kosta Diamantis.

Andrew Brown is a reporter for The Connecticut Mirror (<https://ctmirror.org/>). Copyright 2022 © The Connecticut Mirror.

Fine

from Page 1

CON application."

At an OHS hearing in November, Hartford HealthCare officials said births at Windham Hospital have dropped precipitously since Mansfield Ob/Gyn, a large local practice, opted to leave the hospital and deliver in Manchester instead. As a result, they said, it is not practical to continue providing labor and delivery services.

"Patient volume has declined significantly over the past six years, making it impossible for the hospital to continue to provide these services in a safe manner," Dr. David Kalla told OHS.

The suggestion of closing the Windham Hospital maternity ward prompted outcry from locals, some of whom sought to block the plan, arguing it was unfair to ask people in Northeast Connecticut to travel so far to give birth.

"This conglomeration has come into our community and taken over our community hospital and has begun to deplete services in our community hospital," Leah Ralls, president of the Willimantic chapter of the NAACP said in November. "It feels very offensive."

At the OHS hearing, those who oppose closing the maternity ward in Windham blamed Hartford HealthCare for the decline in births there, claiming the health system drove away Mansfield Ob/Gyn.

"This is how you break a small city," Rodney Alexander, a new Windham city councilor, testified. "How can we expect young families to move here and raise a family and there are no OB-GYNs here?"

On Monday, Varona reiterated Hartford HealthCare's position that the system has no choice but to permanently close the maternity ward in Windham.

"As our CON application explained, and as experts testified, it had become impossible to provide a safe, quality childbirth experience at Windham Hospital due to departures of obstetricians and trained staff," she said.

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.



LEFT: Republican gubernatorial candidate Bob Stefanowski talks with reporters outside the House chambers on the first day of the legislative session Wednesday. RIGHT: Gov. Ned Lamont speaks at a joint session of the House and Senate on Wednesday. MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT



Super PAC

from Page 1

Stefanowski, the Republican gubernatorial nominee then and the likely nominee in 2022.

It's unknown whether the CT Truth PAC and Kelsey will fulfill the same role for Stefanowski this year as did the Protect Free-

dom PAC and its main benefactor, Anselmo, in 2018.

In 2018, Kelsey gave \$10,000 to CT Rising, the super PAC that supported Mark Boughton over Stefanowski in the the five-way GOP primary. He gave Stefanowski \$3,500 once he won the nomination.

Super PACs are barred from coordinating with the campaigns and candidates they support. Steve

Obsitnik, one of the 2018 gubernatorial candidates, paid \$90,000 to elections enforcement to settle a complaint of illegal coordination.

Gov. Ned Lamont, the Democrat who is seeking a second term, spent \$15 million on his self-funded campaign in 2018. Stefanowski has committed \$10 million of his own money to his 2022 campaign and is on the air with an initial television

buy of \$1 million.

Kelsey is the financial backer of the CT Examiner, a news site launched in May 2019 to cover town and regional news, including politics. It employs a half-dozen reporters.

He is a co-founder and managing principal of Hamilton Point Investments, a national investor in multi-family housing and hotels.

Hartford Courant

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Published daily and Sunday by The Hartford Courant Company (ISSN 1047-4153). Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT. Postmaster send address changes to: The Hartford Courant, P.O. Box 569, Hartford, CT 06141-0569. Home delivery rates: Daily and Sunday (7 days), \$1799; *Thursday through Sunday (4 days) \$1399; *Thursday, Friday and Sunday (3 days) \$1250; Thursday and Sunday (2 days) \$1050; Sunday-only service \$899, includes the Thanksgiving paper; Sunday through Friday (6 days) \$1225; Monday through Friday (5 days) \$1250; Monday through Saturday (6 days) \$1158. All subscriptions may include up to 12 premium issues per year. For each premium issue, your account balance will be charged an additional fee up to \$5.99 in the billing period when the section publishes. This will result in shortening the length of your billing period. Premium issues scheduled to date: 1/10/21, 2/14/21, 3/28/21, 4/18/21, 5/16/21, 6/13/21, 7/11/21, 8/8/21, 9/5/21, 10/10/21, 11/21/21, 12/19/21. Dates are subject to change without notice. *Service not available in all areas. Rates may vary based on subscription length. Vacation stops do not extend expiration dates. We may increase home delivery rates with 15 days notice. The Hartford Courant reserves the right to revise or reject any advertisement. Only publication of the advertisement shall constitute acceptance of the advertisement. The Hartford Courant shall not be responsible for the omission, in whole or in part, of any advertisement or for any typographical or other error. The Hartford Courant's liability shall be limited to the amount paid by the advertiser for the first insertion only. In no event shall The Hartford Courant be liable for consequential damages of any kind.



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LOTTERY
Monday, Feb. 14

PLAY3 DAY 7 4 9 WB: 0	PLAY4 DAY 9 9 1 1 WB: 5
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The late lotto numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

SUNDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT 9 1 1 WB: 4	PLAY4 NIGHT 2 7 9 0 WB: 1
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CASH 5
9 10 15 29 33

LUCKY FOR LIFE
4 14 18 19 37 LB: 4

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Wednesday's est. Powerball jackpot: \$183 million



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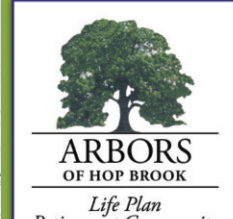
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TRIBUNE
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FROM PAGE ONE

Rally

from Page 1

in 1998, told the crowd of about 50, gathered in the bitter cold on Monday.

The rally took place four years after the slayings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., and nine years after more than 5,000 people rallied for stricter gun control measures at the Capitol in the wake of the Sandy Hook school shooting.

Politicians and anti-violence advocates called for expanded funding for violence mediation groups such as Compass Youth Collaborative in Hartford and voiced their support for a legislative measure — which that morning the Connecticut General Assembly's Public Health Committee had approved to be drafted — establishing a statewide Office of Gun Violence Prevention.

"We know that they can touch people, reach young people before they commit gun violence," U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., said of violence prevention workers. "... We should be investing in them, supporting them, and urging and inspiring them to do even more."

Gun-related homicides spiked in Connecticut in 2021 and the majority of victims were Black residents, said Jeremy Stein, executive director of CT Against Gun Violence, an organization that aims to end gun violence in the state. Young Black men in Connecticut are 39 times more likely than young white men to die by gun violence, he noted.

"It is time to prioritize the issue of gun violence prevention by establishing an Office of Gun Violence Prevention," said Janet Rice, also of CT Against Gun Violence. "We need to act now."

Addressing a crowd dotted with neon orange signs bearing the names and ages of gun violence victims, Rice recalled the shooting of her 20-year-old son Shane Oliver, who was killed in 2012 while on his way to collect money for a car he had sold.

"All these victims were doing ordinary, basic things and lost their lives while doing just that," she said. "Basic things. Cooking



dinner. Excitedly waiting to go to the corner store for a treat. Lying in bed, asleep."

Nicole Hockley, the co-founder and CEO of the Sandy Hook Promise Foundation, whose son Dylan was one of the 20 first-graders killed in the Newtown shooting, recalled attending the March for Change at the Capitol in 2013, holding a bright green sign with a picture of her son.

Before the Sandy Hook shooting, she said, she had thought she was "safe, immune" from gun violence. After the tragedy, she said, "I had no choice other than to learn how to think differently, how to learn to look at community intervention programs, how to look at how we could educate and empower our kids."

Maggie LaBanca, a senior at Newtown High School and survivor of the Sandy Hook shooting, urged U.S. lawmakers to pass



comprehensive gun control laws and state leaders to prioritize gun violence prevention efforts.

"Those of us from Newtown understand the long-lasting detrimental effects that gun violence

can generate," said LaBanca, a co-chair of the Jr. Newtown Action Alliance. "Communities like Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport suffer daily, due to high incidents of interpersonal

ABOVE: Demonstrators attend a rally on the steps of the state Capitol held on the ninth anniversary of the March for Change Rally that occurred following the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary School. **LEFT:** Marlene Pratt, founder of the New Haven Botanical Garden of Healing, speaks on the steps of the Capitol. **MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT**

violence."

To Jacquelyn Santiago, the CEO of Compass Youth Collaborative, gun violence is a public health issue — and one that is "as contagious as COVID."

"There's no vaccine for violence," she said. "But we do hire peace-builders."

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Senate

from Page 1

allowed parents — rather than school boards or the governor — to make the final decision on whether individual students wear masks in school.

The amendment was rejected 21-13 on strict party lines before the later vote on the full bill.

Sen. Rob Sampson, a conservative from Wolcott, offered the amendment that would have provided the choice for children in schools and day care centers, effective immediately.

"I think this is the only path forward," he told colleagues on the Senate floor. "It is the right thing to do. ... Ultimately, it allows parents to make that final choice."

But Lesser said the switch would mark "a vast change" in "a stunningly irresponsible" amendment that would cause "chaos" in the schools. Sampson, though, countered that it would not be a problem because schools have operated for years without masks.

"Some kids will come to school with masks, and some will not," Sampson said, adding that he does not see potential disruptions in the schools. "I think this is a no-brainer amendment. ... It's the parents' choice or the government's choice. That's what's at stake."

Sampson and other Republicans were also concerned about freedom and the rule of law.

Sampson said he keeps hearing words like "let" and "allow" that should not be used in the debate. "It is so frustrating to hear our government officials saying they are allowing such a behavior," he said.

"All of these mandates and two years of a speculative definition of what an emergency is," Sampson said. "We have the rule of law — not the rule of man or the rule of a king. It applies to everyone the same."

"People are not stupid. Let that sink in for a second. The people we represent are not stupid," Sampson said. "They will put the masks on themselves. We don't have to tell them that. If there was a virus that was so dangerous that we needed to put masks on children ... I don't think they should be in school at all."

Sen. Saud Anwar, a South Windsor Democrat who is also a physician, said that state officials have been correct to follow highly qualified medical personnel who have spent their entire careers on infectious diseases. He noted that more than 10,000 patients have died in Connecticut since the pandemic started spreading nearly two years ago.



During an hours-long debate about masks in schools, residents sit on the floor at the state Capitol as they watch a telecast of the debate in the state Senate chamber. Only the first floor of the Capitol is open to the general public due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. **MARK MIRKO PHOTOS/HARTFORD COURANT**

"Let's stay the course. We are so close to victory," Anwar said. "It really is not over. We said it was over a few months ago. It's not over. ... The disease is not as severe."

Unfortunately, he said, the debate has included disinformation and distortions that masks are ineffective.

"Let's stop dividing people, please? We are better than this," Anwar said.

Senate majority leader Bob Duff of Norwalk said disinformation became common nearly two years ago when opponents said COVID was "just like the flu — like a cold." Nationwide, nearly 1 million people have died over the past two years.

During the House debate last week on the floor for more than one hour, Rep. Doug Dubitsky of Chaplin said that masks are unsafe and ineffective.

"That's a ridiculous comment," Senate President Pro Tem Martin Looney of New Haven told Capitol reporters Monday. "Many children are succeeding very well in schools with masks."

During the debate, Looney said that only 13 executive orders remained in effect from about 300 that Lamont had originally issued. As executive orders, they will cease to exist — but will be enacted into law.

"We're doing exactly what so many have clamored for — having the legislature step in and take action," Looney said.

Sen. Will Haskell, a Westport

Democrat, said the future COVID decisions will be made by the local officials in the same way that they decide whether to close schools on a snow day. He noted that the roads might be icy in his hometown of Westport but not in other areas of the state. The governor does not have the authority to close all schools statewide on a snow day, and the local officials should be able to decide on masks, he said.

Sen. Tony Hwang, a Fairfield Republican who opposes the school mask mandate, talked about his experiences as a child under an authoritarian government.

"My parents escaped from communist China as teenagers and escaped to Taiwan," Hwang said, describing the power of government. "That was all we knew. We were in constant fear. ... The danger and the fear that is reinforced, that allows the government to be the protector, was constant. We realized this was the only way. It wasn't until we came to the United States and recognized that we do have a choice."

Hwang added, "Until we came to this country, we didn't know anything different. ... When I say the word indoctrination, unless you lived it ... it literally impacts every aspect of your life."

While 360 people signed up to speak last week during a public hearing about masks, fewer than 100 actually spoke before the six-hour hearing ended, legislators said. Democrats said those who

could not speak were allowed to submit written testimony.

Despite believing in science, Hwang said he opposes the mandate.

"I believe in the vaccine. I believe in the boosters," Hwang said. "We have moved forward with new medical science. ... But the cure that the state is mandating is more dangerous than the virus. How can we dismiss the social and emotional impact of an entire generation of students?"

Senators also debated over the public health and civil preparedness emergencies that are related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The emergencies had been previously declared by Lamont, but his extraordinary powers are expiring Tuesday. As a result, the legislature is assuming the authority over the emergencies.

A critical point for Democrats is that Connecticut cannot afford to lose \$32.6 million per month in additional federal funding for food stamps for 214,000 struggling households with an extra \$95 per month for those currently receiving the maximum benefit. The resolution also includes \$20 million more from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, known as FEMA. That money is needed for housing so that homeless people are not packed into close quarters and bunk beds in small shelters, where the virus could be transmitted more easily, officials said.

"We have not been in a state of emergency for a long, long time," Sampson said. "A lot of the hysteria is being created by the government saying we're in a state of emergency."

Senate Republican leader Kevin Kelly of Stratford said that New York, Wisconsin, Kansas, Utah, and Oklahoma all ended their statewide emergency declarations and still received the maximum amount of food stamp benefits.

Looney, however, said the legislature was exerting its own authority during "an ongoing crisis" as the pandemic continues, adding, "We should not do anything that could potentially jeopardize that flow of funds."

Besides masks, the Senate also approved multiple other provisions Monday in a single bill.

The orders that will be extended include requiring visitors to nursing homes to be vaccinated or taking a COVID test before being allowed into the home. The provision, known as executive order 14F, will be extended to March 15, while other short-term provisions will last until April 15. None of the provisions are being permanently written into state law, proving flexibility for the legislature that can change, depending on the severity of the pandemic.

The bill also allows the state housing department and other departments to provide housing for people who are at high risk of contracting the virus, such as homeless people who want to avoid being crammed into shelters in bunk beds in close quarters. The House voted separately on a resolution to obtain millions of dollars from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, known as FEMA, to pay for the temporary housing for the homeless.

The debate, which started at about 11:35 a.m., continued until the final vote after 6:20 p.m. Monday.

Legislators dropped a potential provision that would have waived the long-running rule that school districts must have 180 days of instruction per year. That would have given additional flexibility this year for school districts to include COVID-relief days to be included in the 180 total. If the schools were closed for up to five days due to COVID reasons, those days could have been included. But the idea was dropped by the House because lawmakers said there was no consensus on the controversial issue. The measure was not included in the Senate bill.

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Russia open to more talks with West

Ukraine's president hints at compromise to ward off conflict

By Anton Troianovski and Andrew E. Kramer
The New York Times

MOSCOW — The tone of the crisis over Ukraine shifted Monday as Russia's top diplomat endorsed more talks to resolve its standoff with the West, and Ukrainian officials hinted at offering concessions to avert war — even as Russian warships massed off Ukraine's Black Sea coast and Russian ground troops appeared poised to strike.

In stage-managed, televised meetings, the Kremlin sent its strongest signals yet that it would seek further negotiations with the West rather than launch immediate military action. State television showed Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov telling President Vladimir Putin there was still a diplomatic path ahead. Minutes later, it showed Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu telling Putin that what he characterized as “large-scale drills” around Ukraine were coming to an end.

“I believe that our possibilities are far from exhausted,” Lavrov said, referring to Russia's negotiations with the West. “I would propose continuing and intensifying them.”

Putin responded ambiguously: “Good.”

It was a sign that the Kremlin was still holding out the possibility that it could use its troop buildup to achieve key objectives without military action. The prospect for such a scenario was bolstered in Kyiv, the Ukrainian capital,



A Ukrainian soldier is posted at the front line Monday in Krashnohorivka in the nation's eastern region as Russian and Belarusian forces conducted joint military exercises in airspace near Ukraine. TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

where President Volodymyr Zelenskyy left open the possibility of dropping his country's ambition to join the NATO alliance — a move that would help fulfill one of Putin's key demands.

At a news conference, Zelenskyy emphasized that NATO membership was “for our security,” with the goal of joining the alliance written into the country's constitution. But he acknowledged the difficult place the country found itself in, nearly completely encircled by Russian forces and with partners like the United States insisting they will not send troops into Ukraine to repel a Russian invasion.

“How much should Ukraine go on that path?” Zelenskyy said of NATO membership. “Who will support us?”

The prospect of Ukraine joining NATO, he posited, could be “like a dream.”

Zelenskyy spoke alongside Chancellor Olaf Scholz of Germany, the latest Western leader trying shuttle diplomacy to avert war. The flurry of diplomacy came as fears of war have caused oil prices to spike, pushing well past \$90 a barrel.

“If Russia violates the territorial integrity of Ukraine again, we know what to do,” Scholz said. “In the event of military escalation,

we are ready for very far-reaching and effective sanctions in coordination with our allies.”

Scholz will fly to Moscow on Tuesday for crisis talks with Putin, following up on last week's Kremlin visit by President Emmanuel Macron of France. Foreign Minister Zbigniew Rau of Poland — a country that is one of Russia's most vocal critics in Europe — was also scheduled to visit Moscow on Tuesday to meet with his Russian counterpart, Lavrov. And Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio of Italy prepared to depart for his own Eastern European tour, which will bring him to Kyiv

on Tuesday and Moscow on Wednesday.

In his televised meeting with Putin, Lavrov highlighted the West's diplomatic frenzy as a sign that the Kremlin's strategy of pairing negotiations with military pressure was working. Putin laid out that strategy in an address to Russian diplomats in November: It was good that “tensions” were high with the West, the president told them, and it was “important for them to remain in this state for as long as possible.”

And he directed his diplomats to demand “security guarantees” from the West, such as a legally binding

pledge that Ukraine will never join the NATO alliance.

“Our initiative,” Lavrov told Putin, “shook up our Western colleagues and became the reason they have no longer been able to ignore many of our previous appeals.”

Ambiguity about what comes next has been central to Putin's strategy in the crisis set off by his troop buildup. Western officials warn that an invasion remains a real possibility in the coming days.

In Monday's televised meetings, Putin did not state his own position, even after his defense minister told him that Russian military exercises were winding down. He did not specify which exercises were ending, but Russia has used the pretext of exercises to move troops and warships from across the country to within striking distance of Ukraine.

“Some of the drills are already ending and some will end soon,” Shoigu said.

The ambiguity over Russia's intentions is forcing Ukraine and its Western partners to make hard decisions about what concessions to make to prevent an invasion — and causing discord over how seriously to take the threat.

The secretary of Ukraine's security council, Oleksiy Danilov, reiterated the government's position Monday that an invasion is less likely than how the United States has portrayed it.

Such comments are intended to prevent panic among Ukrainians but also might be aimed at easing negotiations with Russia, analysts have said.

Tighter voting rules off to a rocky start in Texas

Rejected ballots, worry seen in the first primary of '22

By Paul J. Weber and Acacia Coronado
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas began early voting Monday in 2022's first primary following a rushed rollout of tougher restrictions and the return of hundreds of mail ballots, dealing Republicans a clumsy debut of voting rules they tightened across the U.S. over the past year in the name of election security.

“I think for all of us there is just a sense of uncertainty,” said Isabel Longoria, the elections administrator for Harris County, which includes Houston.

Election officials in Republican-leaning counties have also expressed frustration — and confusion — over changes they say they have scrambled to implement since Republican Gov. Greg Abbott in September signed a sweeping law that he said would make it “easier to vote and harder to cheat.” For hundreds of Texas voters whose mail ballots and ballot applications have been rejected in recent weeks, that is not the

case.

Harris County election officials announced just days before the first votes were cast in person that 40% of mail ballots received so far had already been sent back, mostly because they did not include required identification and signatures now mandated under Texas law.

Texas is among at least 18 states that will hold elections this year with heightened restrictions — an outgrowth of former President Donald Trump's repeated false claims that the 2020 election was stolen. Republicans have rejected Democrats' protests that the changes would disenfranchise voters, particularly minorities.

But Texas had far less time than any other state to complete the work of changing how elections are run because of its especially early primary on March 1.

How smoothly Texas' primary goes in the coming weeks will be as closely watched as the actual races, few of which are high-profile.

For Republicans, Abbott is heavily favored over a crop of far right challengers in his campaign for a third term, but Attorney General Ken Paxton is fighting a tougher primary under the cloud

of an FBI investigation. Democrat Beto O'Rourke has an almost clear path for his party's nomination for governor.

It's the first primary for new Texas Secretary of State John Scott, an Abbott appointee, who in an interview described the returned ballots and applications as voters adapting to the new rules.

He anticipates the May runoffs and November elections will run smoother, and said he does not think the issues so far and concerns expressed by local officials amount to a failure by the state.

“It's a new process. And I think new processes, especially to those voters who were used to the old process, that absolutely is a friction point,” Scott said.

But the issues have extended beyond voters navigating new requirements. When the League of Women Voters last month requested thousands of voter registration applications for new U.S. citizens, the state said it could not fulfill the request because of paper supply chain shortages after the new law required the forms to be updated and reprinted.

Then, county election offices reported they were



Pam Gaskin opens her mail-in primary election ballot in Missouri City, Texas, a portion of which is in Harris County. Election officials there reported 40% of mail-in ballots received were rejected under a new state law. MELISSA PHILLIP/HOUSTON CHRONICLE

having to send back an unusually high number of mail ballot applications for not including required identification such as a driver's license or Social Security number. Now, counties say they are sending back completed ballots for the same reason.

Voters have a chance to correct the ballot as long as it is returned by Election Day, which has left officials waiting to see how many come back.

Scott said the number of rejected mail ballot applica-

tions had fallen to below 5 percent by this month.

He took the job as Texas' chief election officer after serving previous roles under Abbott, but his appointment raised alarms among voting rights groups over his brief stint with Trump's legal team that challenged the 2020 election results. Scott withdrew from the case after a few days and said he does not dispute that President Joe Biden won the election.

Outside San Antonio, Kendall County Elections

Administrator Staci Decker said mail ballot applications are at a low ahead of the primary in her overwhelmingly Republican county that voted for Trump by a margin of 3-to-1 in 2020.

The mostly rural county has for years kept a list of about 400 voters who are sent mail ballot applications. But Texas Republicans added a prohibition this year on government officials proactively sending out mail ballots, under the threat of felony charges and six months in jail.



Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin arrives at a federal courthouse Monday in New York. JEFFERSON SIEGEL/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Judge to toss Palin's lawsuit against NY Times

By Tom Hays
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A judge said Monday he'll dismiss a libel lawsuit that former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin filed against The New York Times, claiming the newspaper damaged her reputation with an editorial falsely linking her campaign rhetoric to a mass shooting.

U.S. District Judge Jed Rakoff made the ruling with a jury still deliberating at a New York City trial where

the former Alaska governor and vice-presidential candidate testified last week.

The judge said Palin had failed to show that The Times had acted out of malice, something required in libel lawsuits involving public figures.

Rakoff said from the bench that he let jury deliberations continue in case his decision winds up being reversed on appeal.

Palin sued The Times in 2017, claiming the newspaper had damaged her career

as a political commentator and consultant with the editorial about gun control published after Rep. Steve Scalise, R-La., was wounded when a man opened fire on a Congressional baseball team practice in Washington.

In the editorial, The Times wrote that before the 2011 mass shooting in Arizona that severely wounded then-Rep. Gabby Giffords and killed six others, Palin's political action committee had contributed to an atmo-

sphere of violence by circulating a map of electoral districts that put Giffords and 19 other Democrats under stylized crosshairs.

The Times acknowledged that then-editorial page editor James Bennet had inserted wording that wrongly described both the map, and any link to the shooting.

But the newspaper's lawyers said he made an “honest mistake” that was never intended to harm Palin.



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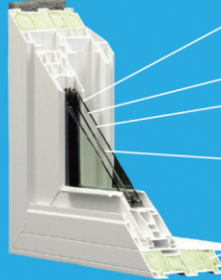


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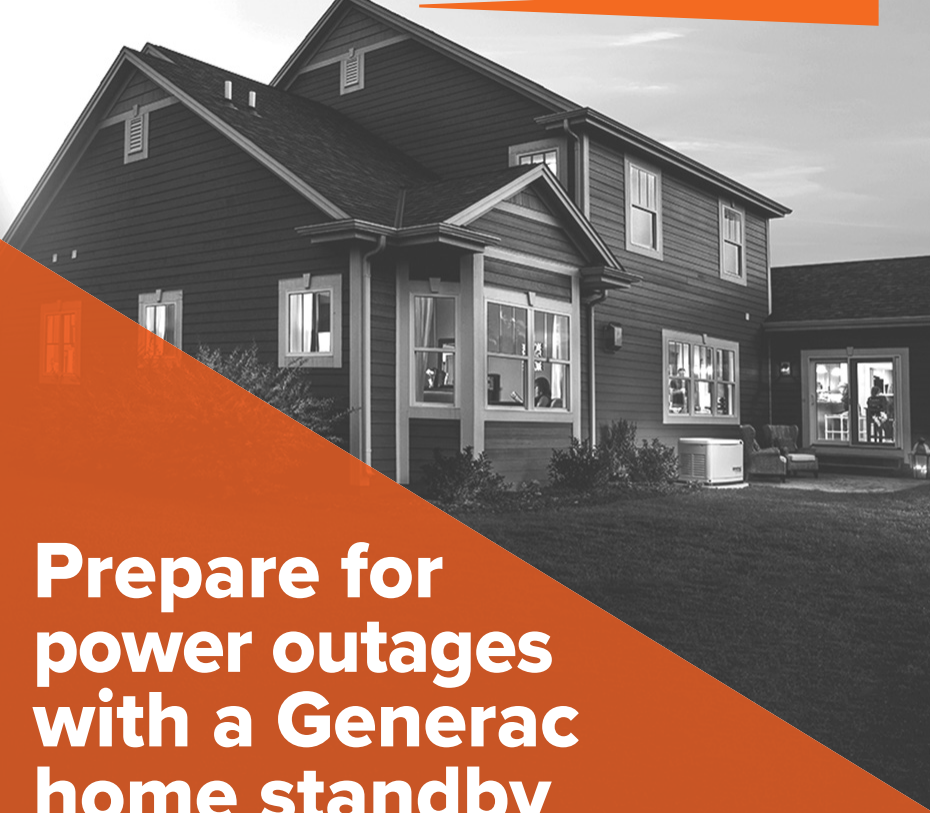
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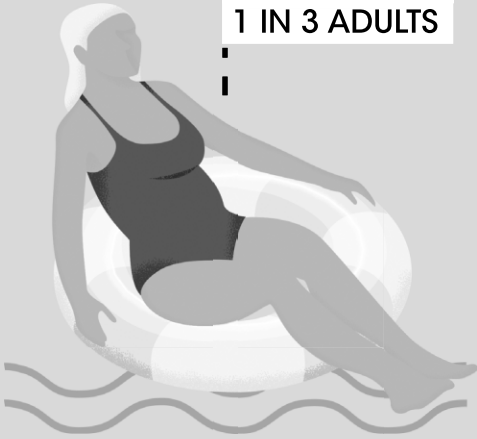
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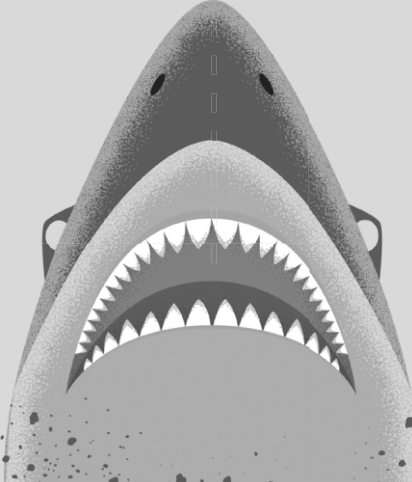
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WORLD & NATION

For some, Mexico is the ticket to US

Asylum-seekers who don't need a visa can walk across border

By Elliot Spagat
Associated Press

SOMERTON, Ariz. — Seated on a metal folding chair in the front row among dozens of asylum-seekers awaiting COVID-19 tests in Arizona, Gloria Estela Vallora reaped the benefits of her Colombian passport. She and eight family members, ranging in age from 4 to 63, flew to Cancun for two nights in the Mexican beach resort town, caught another flight to Mexico's border with the U.S., walked 20 minutes to U.S. agents and spent a night in custody. Within hours, they would be with a friend in Utah.

For Colombians and other nationalities that don't need a visa, flying to Mexico can be a ticket to seeking asylum in the United States. Once arriving at a Mexican border city, they can walk across the border in broad daylight and surrender to U.S. agents. In doing so, they avoid the dangers of traversing Mexico and other countries over land and circumvent sweeping U.S. asylum restrictions.

The U.S. has expelled migrants more than 1.5 million times under a public health order in effect since March 2020 to address the coronavirus, but it hasn't been applied across the board.

Mexico accepts back its own migrants and those from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador under the order, known as Title 42. Other nationalities are eligible for expulsion, but the U.S. frequently won't fly them out due to the expense and strained diplomatic relations with their home countries, notably Cuba and Venezuela. Instead, they are often quickly released in the U.S. to pursue asylum.

The biggest beneficiaries



A Cuban woman and her daughter wait to be escorted to a Border Patrol van for processing in Yuma, Ariz. ELLIOT SPAGAT/AP

are people from Colombia and other nations who can enter Mexico visa-free, allowing them to fly to the U.S. border and walk across. "At my weight, it's not as easy to get around as it used to be," said a smiling Vallora, 59, who fled violence in the city of Bucaramanga. She spoke in a warehouse outside Yuma where a health-care provider tests released migrants for COVID-19 before driving them to Phoenix's Sky Harbor International Airport in chartered buses.

Under U.S. pressure, Mexico is requiring visas from more nationalities, delaying or potentially eliminating the option of flying to the border. Their only alternative may be traveling illegally over land.

Last year, Mexico began requiring visas for Brazilians and Ecuadoreans and, on Jan. 21, did the same for Venezuelans. Mexico's Interior Department said the

latest move responded to a tenfold increase in Venezuelans traveling "in an irregular manner to a third country," a clear reference to the United States.

In December, U.S. officials stopped Venezuelans nearly 25,000 times on the border, more than double September's count and up from only about 200 times the same period a year earlier. Venezuelans were the second-largest nationality encountered in December, behind Mexicans.

A WhatsApp group named "Venezuelans to the United States" has been buzzing with people wanting to know how to get a Mexican visa and which consulates have the soonest appointments. Some posts offer help for a fee, while others warn against scams.

A WhatsApp post on Jan. 23 advertises a guide on a flight to the Mexican border city of Mexicali and across the border for \$1,800, with

food and lodging. It says Mexican authorities will seize their passports at the airport and return them for \$100.

Groups of about 75 to 125 migrants gathered at sunrise several days this month at an opening in the border wall in Yuma, the Border Patrol sector where more than one of three Venezuelans was stopped in December. Venezuelans were virtually absent, as were Mexicans and Central Americans. They were largely Colombian, Cuban, Indian, Haitian and Russian.

Venezuelans still being released said they squeaked into Mexico before the visa requirement took effect and condemned the measure.

"It's quite a journey," said Daniel Sandra, who flew to Mexico Jan. 19 with his 13-year-old son and planned to settle in Chicago with a friend.

Sandra, 42, said he left Venezuela because he could

no longer obey orders to threaten and harass opponents of President Nicolas Maduro as a police officer in the city of Merida. "We are fleeing a dictatorship," he said while waiting for a bus to Phoenix at the Regional Center for Border Health's warehouse in Somerton, a sunbaked Yuma suburb of 14,000 people whose old Main Street buildings hint at its 19th-century roots.

U.S. authorities stopped Colombians — many of them relatively well-off — nearly 4,100 times in December, up from 73 times a year earlier.

Alejandro Pizza, 34, came with an extended family of 16 this month after deciding his business selling imported farm equipment in Bogota couldn't survive extortion threats. They vacationed four days on Cancun beaches before flying to the border city of Mexicali, where they hired four Uber drivers to bring them to an opening in the

border wall in Yuma.

Flights often arrive after 10 p.m. in Mexicali, where migrants find a hotel before taking a bus or taxi about an hour east to Los Algodones, a town full of dentists and optometrists who cater to American and Canadian snowbirds.

From there, they walk about 10 minutes on a concrete ledge of the Morelos Dam to U.S. agents in Yuma. Others hike a bit longer to another opening further south. The two hot spots are connected by a dirt road, with the border wall on one side and the other lined with date palm trees and canals that water bright fields of lettuce, grasses and other crops.

Migrants who pile into vans for a short stay in a Border Patrol tent include many from countries who don't enjoy visa-free travel and travel surreptitiously over land to reach the border. Cubans often start in Nicaragua, the closest country to the U.S. that they can fly to.

Haitians are worse off. Love Bre, who came by bus and on foot from Chile, made the mistake of allowing a Mexican man guide him, his wife and daughter down a hill to the concrete path across the dam to Yuma.

"He even took my watch," said Bre, 35, holding up his wrist as he entered the Somerton warehouse for a COVID-19 test and bus ride to the Phoenix airport. The bandit also took \$180.

U.S. authorities have released about 15,000 migrants to the Regional Center for Border Health since last February, said Amanda Aguirre, chief executive of the health-care provider. About nine of 10 are quickly on a bus to the Phoenix airport, with others taken to shelters.

It's too soon to say if travel restrictions will stop Venezuelans and may depend on how easily Mexico issues visas.



A kayaker paddles in California's Lake Oroville amid low water levels due to a megadrought that has gripped the American West for the past 22 years. ETHAN SWOPE/AP 2021

West's megadrought driest in at least 1,200 years, study says

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press

The American West's megadrought deepened so much last year that it is now the driest in at least 1,200 years and is a worst-case climate change scenario playing out live, a new study finds.

A dramatic drying in 2021 — about as dry as 2002 and one of the driest years ever recorded for the region — pushed the 22-year drought past the previous record-holder for megadroughts in the late 1500s and shows no signs of easing in the near future, according to a study Monday in the journal Nature Climate Change.

The study calculated that 42% of this megadrought can be attributed to human-caused climate change.

"Climate change is changing the baseline conditions toward a drier, gradually drier state in the West and that means the worst-case scenario keeps getting worse," said study lead author Park Williams, a climate hydrologist at UCLA. "This is right in line with what people were thinking of in the 1900s as a worst-case scenario. But

today I think we need to be even preparing for conditions in the future that are far worse than this."

Williams studied soil moisture levels in the West — a box that includes California, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, most of Oregon and Idaho, much of New Mexico, western Colorado, northern Mexico, and the southwest corners of Montana and Texas — using modern measurements and tree rings for estimates that go back to the year 800.

That's about as far back as estimates can reliably go with tree rings.

A few years ago, Williams studied the current drought and said it qualified as a lengthy and deep "megadrought" and that the only worse one was in the 1500s.

He figured the current drought wouldn't surpass that one because megadroughts tended to peter out after 20 years. And, he said, 2019 was a wet year so it looked like the western drought might be coming to an end.

But the region dried up in late 2020 and 2021.

All of California was considered in official drought from mid-May

until the end of 2021, and at least three-quarters of the state was at the highest two drought levels from June through Christmas, according to the U.S. drought monitor.

"For this drought to have just cranked up back to maximum drought intensity in late 2020 through 2021 is a quite emphatic statement by this 2000s drought saying that we're nowhere close to the end," Williams said. This drought is now 5% drier than the old record from the 1500s, he said.

The drought monitor says 55% of the U.S. West is in drought with 13% experiencing the two highest drought levels.

This megadrought really kicked off in 2002 — one of the driest years ever, based on humidity and tree rings, Williams said.

"I was wondering if we'd ever see a year like 2002 again in my life and in fact, we saw it 20 years later, within the same drought," Williams said.

The drought levels in 2002 and 2021 were a statistical tie, though still behind 1580 for the worst single year.

Parkland families, advocates press Biden on gun violence

By Zeke Miller
and Colleen Long
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Four years after 17 people were gunned down at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, families and gun control advocates are pressing President Joe Biden to do more to address gun violence.

Protesters demonstrated near the White House, and the father of one teenager killed at the school scaled a 150-foot crane across the street on the anniversary of the shooting.

"The whole world will listen to Joaquin today. He has a very important message," the father, Manuel Oliver, said in a video referring to his son. "I asked for a meeting with Joe Biden a month ago, never got that meeting."

Oliver unfurled a sign that showed a photo of his son and criticized Biden for gun deaths on his watch. Police were called to the scene, where at least two people were on the crane. The father and two protesters were taken into custody, accused of breaking into a construction site and scaling the equipment.

His action was part of a series of efforts to draw attention to gun violence and to a new website chronicling 47,000 gun deaths, including suicides, since Biden was inaugurated in January 2021. The tracker also lists the number of young people killed and injured as well as mass shootings and encourages users to call on Biden and other administration officials to act.

"As a candidate, Joe Biden promised to prioritize gun violence prevention. As president, Joe Biden has not," said Igor Volsky, founder and executive director of the group Guns Down America.

Blocked by members of Congress, especially Repub-



Manuel Oliver displays a banner calling on federal officials to prioritize gun violence prevention from a crane on Monday near the White House. STEFANI REYNOLDS/GETTY-AFP

licans, Biden's efforts to pass legislation to tighten gun laws haven't left the drawing board. He also was forced to pull his nominee to lead the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The group is calling on Biden to start a national office to address gun violence and to make a new nomination to head the ATF.

Biden said in a statement before the protest that the movement to end gun violence is "extraordinary."

"We can never bring back those we've lost. But we can come together to fulfill the first responsibility of our government and our democracy: to keep each other safe," he said. "For Parkland, for all those we've lost, and for all those left behind, it is time to uphold that solemn obligation."

With no congressional appetite for new gun laws, deputy press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said that Biden "is doing everything that he can from his perch from the White House, from the federal government."

Since a former student opened fire at the high school on Valentine's Day in 2018, killing 14 students and three staff members, gun violence at schools has only risen. There were at least 136 instances of gunfire on school grounds between Aug. 1 and Dec. 31, according to a recent tally by the gun control advocacy group

Everytown for Gun Safety.

Biden has acted to crack down on "ghost guns," homemade firearms that lack serial numbers used to trace them and that are often purchased without a background check. He has worked to tighten regulations on pistol-stabilizing braces like the one used in a Boulder, Colorado, shooting last April that left 10 people dead. He's also encouraged cities to use their COVID-19 relief dollars to help manage gun violence.

However, there are limits to legislation when there is strong opposition among many in Congress to significant gun measures. The strongest effort in recent years failed, even after 20 children and six adults were killed in the 2012 Sandy Hook school shootings in Newtown, Connecticut.

Biden, a Democrat, said he's asked members of Congress to provide funding to help reduce violent crime and said they must pass legislation requiring background checks on all gun sales, banning assault weapons and high-capacity magazines and eliminating immunity for gun manufacturers.

The U.S. Secret Service's National Threat Assessment Center studied school attacks nationwide from 2006-18 and reported that most attackers were bullied and warning signs were there.

WORLD & NATION

Canada moves to stifle protests

Trudeau invokes special powers, but won't use military

By Rob Gillies and Ted Shaffrey Associated Press

OTTAWA, Ontario — Prime Minister Justin Trudeau invoked emergency powers Monday to quell the paralyzing protests by truckers and others angry over Canada's COVID-19 restrictions, outlining plans not only to tow away their rigs but to strike at their bank accounts and their livelihoods.

"These blockades are illegal, and if you are still participating, the time to go home is now," he declared.

In invoking Canada's Emergencies Act, which gives the federal government broad powers to restore order, Trudeau ruled out using the military.

His government instead threatened to tow away

vehicles to keep essential services running; freeze truckers' personal and corporate bank accounts; and suspend the insurance on their rigs.

"Consider yourselves warned," Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland said. "Send your rigs home."

Freeland, who is also the finance minister, said the government will also broaden its anti-money-laundering regulations to target crowd-funding sites that are being used to support the illegal blockades.

Trudeau did not indicate when the new crack-downs would begin. But he gave assurances the emergency measures "will be time-limited, geographically targeted, as well as reasonable and proportionate to the threats they are meant to address."

For more than two weeks, hundreds and sometimes thousands of protesters in trucks and other vehicles

have clogged the streets of Ottawa, the capital, and besieged Parliament Hill, railing against vaccine mandates for truckers and other COVID-19 precautions and condemning Trudeau's Liberal government.

Members of the self-styled Freedom Convoy have also blockaded various U.S.-Canadian border crossings, though the busiest and most important — the Ambassador Bridge connecting Windsor, Ontario, to Detroit — was reopened Sunday after police arrested dozens of demonstrators and broke the nearly week-long siege that had disrupted auto production in both countries.

"This is the biggest, greatest, most severe test Trudeau has faced," said Wesley Wark, a University of Ottawa professor and national security expert.

Invoking the Emergencies Act allows the federal

government to declare the Ottawa protest illegal and clear it out by such means as towing vehicles, Wark said.

One of the protest organizers in Ottawa vowed not to back down in the face of pressure from the government.

"There are no threats that will frighten us. We will hold the line," Tamara Lich said.

Cadalin Valcea, a truck driver from Montreal protesting for more than two weeks, said he will move only if forced.

"We want only one thing: to finish with this lockdown and these restrictions," he said.

Trudeau met virtually with leaders of the country's provinces before announcing the crackdown.

Doug Ford, the Conservative premier of Ontario, which is Canada's most populous province and includes Ottawa and Windsor, indicated support for the emergency action before the meeting with Trudeau,

saying: "We need law and order. Our country is at risk now."

But the leaders of other provinces warned the prime minister against taking emergency action, some of them cautioning that such a move could inflame an already dangerous situation.

"At this point, it would not help the social climate. There is a lot of pressure, and I think we have to be careful," said Quebec Premier Francois Legault. "It wouldn't help for the polarization."

Also Monday, Ontario's premier announced that on March 1, the province will lift its requirement that people show proof of vaccination to get into restaurants, gyms and sporting events. The surge of cases caused by the omicron variant has crested in Canada.

"Let me very clear: We are moving in this direction because it is safe to do so. Today's announcement is not because of what's

happening in Ottawa or Windsor but despite it," Ford said.

The protests have drawn support from right-wing extremists and armed citizens in Canada, and have been cheered on in the U.S. by Fox News personalities and conservatives such as Donald Trump.

Other conservatives pushed Trudeau to simply drop the pandemic mandates.

"He's got protests right around the country, and now he's dropping in the polls, desperately trying to save his political career. The solution is staring him in the face," said opposition Conservative lawmaker Pierre Poilievre, who is running for the party's leadership.

In other developments, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said they arrested 11 at the blockaded border crossing at Coutts, Alberta, opposite Montana, after learning of a cache of guns and ammunition.

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Prosecutor: Arbery's killers had histories of making racist remarks

From news services

BRUNSWICK, Ga. — The three white men convicted of killing Ahmaud Arbery had histories of making racist comments or using slurs in text messages that stunned their friends and colleagues, a federal prosecutor told jurors Monday as the trio stood trial on hate crime charges in the Black man's death.

During opening statements, defense attorneys admitted their clients had each expressed offensive and indefensible opinions about Black people. But they

insisted the trio's pursuit of Arbery as he ran in their neighborhood was prompted by honest, though erroneous, suspicion that he had committed crimes.

Travis McMichael and his father, Greg McMichael, armed themselves and chased Arbery in a pickup truck after he ran past their coastal Georgia home on Feb. 23, 2020. A neighbor, William "Roddie" Bryan, joined the pursuit in his own truck and recorded cellphone video of Travis McMichael blasting Arbery with a shotgun. Arrests came only after

the video leaked online two months later.

All three were convicted of murder and a judge sentenced them to life in prison last month.

Now the McMichaels and Bryan are on trial in U.S. District Court, where federal prosecutors have charged them with hate crimes that allege they violated Arbery's civil rights and targeted him because he was Black.

Security cameras inside a nearby home under construction had recorded video of Arbery wandering inside, but never taking anything, several times in the months before his death. White people had also been seen entering the home, which had no doors or windows. Yet the McMichaels assumed the 25-year-old Arbery must be a criminal and kept a lookout for him, prosecutor Bobbi Bernstein told the jury.

"If Ahmaud Arbery had been white, he'd have gone for a jog, checked out a cool house that was under construction and been home in time for Sunday dinner," Bernstein said.

A jury of eight white people, three Black people and one Hispanic person was sworn in to hear the case Monday morning along with four alternate jurors.

Judge Lisa Godbey Wood said she expects the hate crimes trial to last between seven and 12 days..

Suu Kyi trial: Ousted Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi went on trial Monday on election fraud charges, the latest in a series of criminal prosecutions by the military-run government in which she has already been sentenced to six years in prison.

The army seized power and arrested Suu Kyi last

February, claiming widespread voter fraud in the 2020 general election, an allegation not corroborated by independent election observers. Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party won the election by a landslide, while the military-backed party did poorly.

Suu Kyi, 76, has faced several charges since she was taken into custody. Her supporters and human rights groups say the cases against her are baseless and have been contrived to bar her return to politics and participation in a new election the army has promised by 2023.

All of the trials are closed, and a gag order has been placed on the defense lawyers.

Birx book: Dr. Deborah Birx has a book coming out this spring that will focus on her contentious time as White

House coronavirus task force coordinator in the administration of President Donald Trump.

Harper, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers, announced Monday that Birx's "Silent Invasion: The Untold Story of The Trump Administration, COVID-19, and Preventing the Next Pandemic Before It's Too Late," will be out April 26.

In February 2020, then-Vice President Mike Pence appointed Birx, 65, the White House coronavirus response coordinator.

But during her time with Trump, Birx drew criticism for everything from allegedly telling him in April 2020 that the pandemic would soon end to not standing up to the president when he contradicted advice from medical and science experts.

By the end of 2020, she had announced her retirement.

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BUSINESS

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Avocado import ban has Mexican president upset

Action taken after threat to US safety inspector and just before Super Bowl

By Mark Stevenson
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Mexico’s president said Monday the U.S. suspension of avocado imports and recent environmental complaints are part of a conspiracy against his country by political or economic interests.

President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador put forward the conspiracy theory after the U.S. suspended imports of Mexican avocados on the eve of the Super Bowl following a threat against a U.S. plant safety inspector in Mexico.

The measure was due to years of worries that drug cartel violence in the western Mexico state of Michoacan — where gangs extort money from avocado growers by threatening to kidnap and kill them — has spilled over to threats against U.S. inspectors.

Lopez Obrador on one hand downplayed the measure, saying avocados for game day itself had already been shipped north and consumed.

“The truth, the Mexican avocados have already been exported,” he said at his daily news briefing. “They already enjoyed the avocados.”

On the other hand, he said producers who wanted to compete with Mexican products, or political factors, played a role in the decision.

“In all of this there are also a lot of political interests and political interests, there is competition; they don’t want Mexican avocados to get into the United States, right, because it would rule in the United States because of its quality,” Lopez Obrador said.

He did not explain what those interests were, but noted ominously, “There are other countries that are interested in selling avocados, as in the case of other farm products, so they lobby, they look for senators, professional public (relations) people and agencies, to put up obstacles.”

The U.S. grows about half the avocados it consumes and to protect domestic orchards from pests, inspects imported avocados — nearly 90% of which came from Mexico in recent years.

It was only in 1997 that the U.S. lifted a ban on Mexican avocados that had been in place since 1914 to prevent a range of weevils, scabs and pests from entering U.S. orchards.

The inspectors work for the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services.

Last Saturday, the U.S. government suspended all imports of Mexican avocados “until further notice” after one of those inspectors in Mexico received a threatening message.

Mexico’s Agriculture Department said in a statement that “U.S. health authorities ... made the decision after one of their officials, who was carrying out inspections in Uruapan, Michoacan, received a threatening message on his official cellphone,” the department wrote.

Two days earlier, the U.S. Trade Representative’s Office filed an environmental complaint against Mexico for failing to stop illegal fishing to protect the critically endangered vaquita marina, the world’s smallest porpoise.



Amid calls for change, more U.S. egg producers are shifting to cage-free eggs. Above, chickens roosting on a farm in Iowa. **VERSOVA 2017**

A scramble for cage-free eggs

Producers making costly shift in response to laws, demands from consumers, restaurants

By Scott McFetridge
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Without much fuss and even less public attention, the nation’s egg producers are in the midst of a multibillion-dollar shift to cage-free eggs that is dramatically changing the lives of millions of hens in response to new laws and demands from restaurant chains.

In a decade, the percentage of hens in cage-free housing has soared from 4% in 2010 to 28% in 2020, and that figure is expected to more than double to about 70% in the next four years.

The change marks one of the animal welfare movement’s biggest successes after years of battles with the food industry. Pushed by voter initiatives as well as pressure from fast food restaurant chains and major grocers, egg producers are letting chickens move throughout henhouses.

“What we producers failed to realize early on was that the people funding all the animal rights activist groups, they were

our customers. And at the end of the day, we have to listen to our customers,” said Marcus Rust, the CEO of Indiana-based Rose Acre Farms, the nation’s second-largest egg producer.

Josh Balk, vice president for farm animal protection at the Humane Society of the United States, noted the abruptness of the about face. This is “an entire industry that at one point fought tooth and nail not to make any changes,” he said.

To a great extent, the industry concluded it didn’t have another choice.

Beginning in about 2015, McDonald’s, Burger King and other national restaurant chains as well as dozens of grocers and food manufacturers responded to pressure from animal welfare groups by announcing their commitment to cage-free eggs. That was followed by laws requiring cage-free housing in California and similar rules in at least seven other states — Colorado, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

McDonald’s, which buys about 2 billion eggs annually, said it gradually shifted to cage-free after concluding it was desired by customers. Many companies widely promoted their move to cage-free as good for their brand’s image. And a Gallup poll

from 2015 found that nearly two-thirds of Americans thought animals deserved protection from harm and exploitation.

The egg industry also initially sought national standards that would allow larger cages but ultimately relented, said J. T. Dean, president of Iowa-based Versova, a leading egg producer. Egg companies house about 325 million laying hens, so shifting many into spaces where they could walk and roost was an expensive proposition, Dean said.

Besides building structures with more space, companies had to figure out how to feed birds that could move about and how to collect their eggs. More workers and more feed were also needed because hens moving around would work up more of an appetite.

The key, said Dean, was getting long-term commitments for guaranteed buyers of eggs at a higher price and then finding financing that would work for his company.

“When you start talking about needing billions of dollars, you have to try every avenue you can,” Dean said.

The exact cost of the switch on egg producers is hard to estimate, in part because some updating of buildings and equipment is done periodically anyway.

Inquiry of UK postal employees gets started

By Sylvia Hui
Associated Press

LONDON — A public inquiry opened in London on Monday to examine the wrongful convictions of hundreds of British postal workers who were accused of theft, fraud or false accounting because of a faulty computer system.

Between 2000 and 2014, more than 700 postal workers were wrongfully accused, with some convicted and sent to prison. The mistakes represented one of the biggest miscarriages of justice in British legal history.

The failures were blamed on a defective computer accounting system called Horizon that was installed in local Post Office branches in 1999. The system was supplied by the Japanese technology firm Fujitsu. The Post Office maintained for years that data from Horizon was reliable and accused branch managers of dishonesty when the system showed money was missing.

In April, the Court of Appeal overturned the wrongful convictions of 39 people who ran local post offices. Those who had their names cleared included Harjinder Butoy, who was convicted of stealing about \$270,000 and jailed for more than three years in 2008.

Lawyer Jason Beer told the hearing Monday that the inquiry was not about “an IT project gone wrong” but about the devastating impact the failures had on those it affected.

“Lives were ruined, families torn apart, families were made homeless or destitute. Reputations were destroyed,” Beer said.

The inquiry was expected to hear from others affected by the IT failings and examine the conduct of the Post Office, as well as whether affected workers have been properly compensated.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Port of Savannah adds to its record

SAVANNAH, Ga. — The Port of Savannah has added another month to its streak of record cargo volumes amid a surge that’s forced U.S. seaports to scramble to meet demand.

The Georgia Ports Authority reported nearly 480,000 container units of imports and exports moved across Savannah’s docks last month. That’s an increase of 4% compared with January 2021.

Business has been booming at U.S. seaports as the economy rebounds from the coronavirus pandemic and retailers rush to keep their inventories stocked.

The port authority reported last month that Savannah saw a 20% increase in shipping containers for all of 2021, when it handled a record 5.6 million container units.

Japanese brewer to exit Myanmar

BANGKOK — Japanese beverage giant Kirin Holdings said Monday it has decided to withdraw from its joint venture in Myanmar.

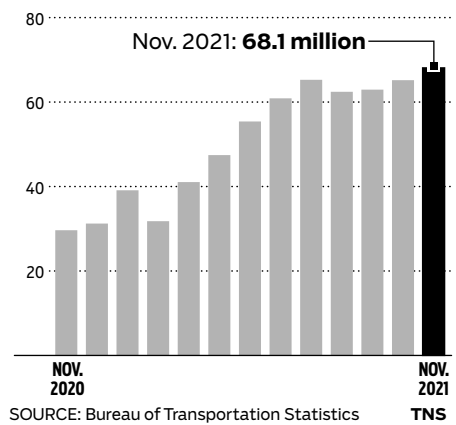
Kirin, owner of the San Miguel, Fat Tire and Lion brands, said its board made the decision to “urgently terminate” the partnership with Myanmar Economic Holdings Plc, a military-affiliated company, after finding it would be difficult to quickly end the venture the way Kirin wanted.

The company announced more than a year ago that it was unhappy with a Feb. 1, 2021, military takeover that violated its corporate standards and human rights policy.

After the ouster of the elected government triggered nonviolent protests, the military and police responded with deadly force.

Airline traffic

Monthly scheduled passengers on U.S. airline flights, international and domestic, scale in millions



Documents: IBM wanted ‘dinobabies’ gone

By Noam Scheiber
The New York Times

In recent years, former IBM employees have accused the company of age discrimination in a variety of legal filings and news accounts, arguing that IBM sought to replace thousands of older workers with younger ones to keep pace with corporate rivals.

Now it appears that top IBM executives were directly involved in discussions about the need to reduce the portion of older employees at the company.

Previously sealed documents made public by a U.S. District Court on Friday show executives discussing plans to phase out older employees and bemoaning the

company’s relatively low percentage of millennials.

The documents emerged from a lawsuit contending that IBM engaged in a yearslong effort to shift the age composition of its workforce.

“These filings reveal that top IBM executives were explicitly plotting with one another to oust older workers from IBM’s workforce in order to make room for millennial employees,” said Shannon Liss-Riordan, a lawyer for the plaintiff.

Liss-Riordan represents hundreds of former IBM employees in similar claims. She is seeking class-action status for some of the claims, although courts have yet to certify the class.

Adam Pratt, an IBM spokesperson,

defended the company’s employment practices. “IBM never engaged in systemic age discrimination,” he said. “Employees were separated because of shifts in business conditions and demand for certain skills, not because of their age.”

The newly unsealed documents — which quote from internal company emails and which were filed in a “statement of material facts” in the lawsuit brought by Liss-Riordan — appear to show top IBM executives specifically emphasizing the need to thin the ranks of older workers and hire more younger ones.

An email by a top executive mentions a plan to “accelerate change by inviting the ‘dinobabies’ (new species) to leave” and make them an “extinct species.”

BUSINESS

Pratt & Whitney gets new president

Current leader takes on new chief operating officer role

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

Raytheon Technologies Corp. on Monday announced a new president of its jet engine subsidiary Pratt & Whitney as the current president takes on a newly established post of chief operating officer.

Shane G. Eddy, senior vice president and chief operations officer, on March 1 will succeed Christopher T. Calio.

Calio was appointed chief operating officer, a new position that will oversee Pratt & Whitney's businesses that include commercial and military engines, airborne auxiliary power units and turbojet propulsion systems.

He'll also oversee Pratt & Whitney's technology and engineering work, enterprise services and environmental, health and safety and supply chain functions.

Greg Hayes, chief executive officer of Raytheon Technologies, said Calio will help advance the company's growth initiatives as it executes its strategy that

includes developing talent. He is credited with overseeing a significant ramp up and new product enhancements, including the introduction of a new version of its geared turbofan engine.

Hayes hailed Eddy's "significant aerospace industry leadership experience and in-depth understanding of Pratt & Whitney's products and culture." Eddy previously worked at GE Aviation, Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. and Bell Textron.

Pratt & Whitney announced in December it's launching a new version of its next-generation geared turbofan engine for Airbus, its largest commercial customer. The GTF Advantage builds on the geared turbofan engine that's been in service for five years and pushes up fuel savings by 1%, to a 17% reduction in fuel consumption and CO2 emissions compared with earlier generation engines.



Eddy

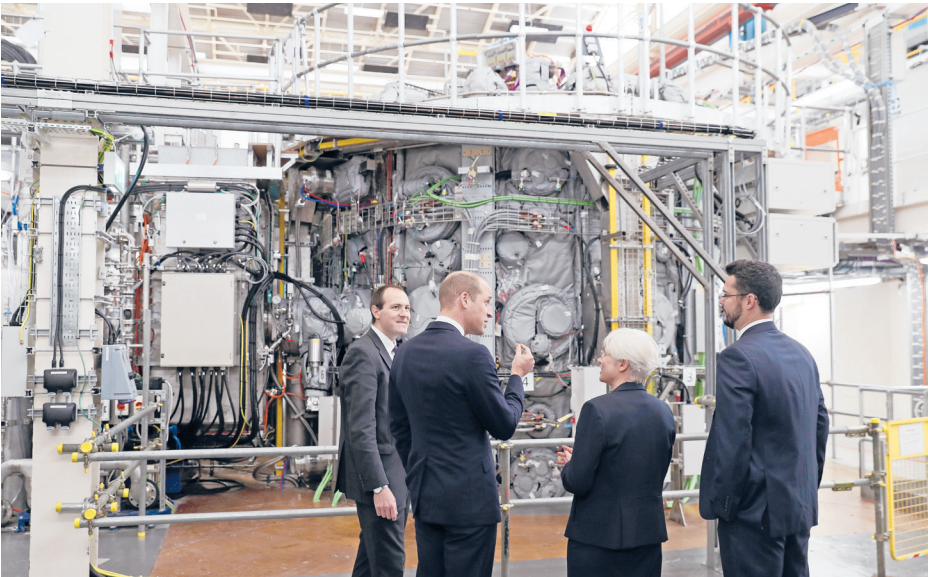
Raytheon Technologies disclosed Friday it's the target of a federal probe into the hiring practices at Pratt & Whitney and Collins Aerospace.

A federal grand jury in Bridgeport in December indicted

five aerospace executives and a former Pratt & Whitney employee on charges of conspiring to limit workers' professional advancement and compensation. The six men were accused of participating in a "long-running conspiracy to restrict the hiring and recruiting of employees among their respective companies."

Pratt & Whitney, based in East Hartford, employs about 36,000 workers. It posted \$18.2 billion in sales last year, up 8% from 2020 when commercial aviation was hit hard by COVID-19, which grounded many airline fleets.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.



Britain's Prince William, second from left, visits the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority in Abingdon, England. Ian Chapman, CEO of the authority, is on the left. ADRIAN DENNIS/POOL VIA AP 2018

Experts hail big step forward in fusion technology in UK

Associated Press

LONDON — European scientists have taken a significant step closer to mastering a technology that could allow them to one day harness nuclear fusion, providing a clean and almost limitless source of energy, British officials have announced.

Researchers at the Joint European Torus experiment near Oxford managed to produce a record amount of heat energy over a five-second period, which was the duration of the experiment, the U.K. Atomic Energy Authority said last week.

The 59 megajoules of sustained fusion energy produced were more than double the previous record achieved in 1997.

The agency said the result was "the clearest demonstration worldwide of the potential for fusion energy to deliver safe and sustainable low-carbon energy."

"If we can maintain fusion for five seconds, we can do it for five minutes and then five hours as we scale up our operations in future machines," said Tony

Donne, program manager for EUROfusion.

Ian Chapman, CEO of the energy agency, said the results were a "huge step closer to conquering one of the biggest scientific and engineering challenges of them all."

The facility, also known as JET, is home to the world's largest and most powerful operational tokamak — a doughnut-shaped device considered as one promising method for performing controlled fusion.

Scientists who were not involved in the project believed it was a significant result, but still a long way from achieving commercial fusion power.

Researchers around the world have long been working on nuclear fusion technology.

The ultimate goal is to generate power the way the sun generates heat, by pressing hydrogen atoms so close to each other that they combine into helium, which releases torrents of energy.

Carolyn Kuranz at the University of Michigan called the development "very exciting" and a step toward achieving "igni-

tion," or when the fuel can continue to "burn" on its own and produce more energy than what's needed to spark the initial reaction.

She said the results appeared "very promising" for ITER, a much larger experimental fusion facility in southern France that uses the same technology and is backed by many European countries, the United States, China, Japan, India, South Korea and Russia. It is expected to begin operation in 2026.

Stephanie Diem of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, said the technology used by JET to achieve the result, using magnets to control ultra-hot plasma, show that harnessing fusion is feasible.

"The next milestone on the horizon for magnetic fusion is to demonstrate scientific breakeven, where the amount of energy produced from fusion reactions exceeds that going into the device," she said.

Scientists hope that fusion reactors might one day provide a source of emissions-free energy without the risks of conventional nuclear power.

High energy prices a drain on European businesses, homes

By Ayse Wieting and Suzan Fraser
Associated Press

Spiking energy prices are raising utility bills from Poland to the United Kingdom, leaving people struggling to make ends meet and small businesses uncertain about how much longer they can stay afloat.

In response, governments across Europe are rushing to pass aid to ease the hit as energy prices drive a record

rise in inflation.

As Europe's energy demand roared back from the depths of the coronavirus pandemic, it ran up against gas reserves sapped by a cold winter last year, a lack of renewable energy generation over the summer and Russia not selling as much gas as usual to Europe.

Utilities are passing the costs along to customers, and people are getting hit twice: with higher bills at home and rising prices from

businesses also paying more for energy.

In Britain, energy prices are set to go up by a record 54% — some \$940 per year — starting in April. The government says customers will get a discount on their bills to be paid back in small installments over the next few years, and most also will get money off another local tax. In total, the government said most people will get about half of the extra cost shaved off.

MARKET RUNDOWN

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

↓

DOW

34,566.17 -171.89

↑

10-YR T-BOND

1.99% +.05

↑

GOLD

\$1,868.00 +27.20

35,840

35,060

34,280

37,600

36,800

36,000

35,200

34,400

33,600

A

S

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D

J

F

10 DAYS

Dow Jones Industrials

Close: 34,566.17

Change: -171.89 (-0.5%)

Commodities

FUELS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	95.46	93.10	+26.92%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	4.20	3.94	+12.47%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.78	2.74	+24.73%
METALS	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
Gold (oz)	1,868.00	1,840.80	+2.22%
Silver (oz)	23.85	23.37	+2.22%

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

Domestic Indexes

	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	34,566.17	-171.89	-4.88%
DOW Trans.	15,120.08	+119.86	-8.24%
DOW Util.	917.29	-7.48	-6.47%
NYSE Comp.	16,531.31	-133.68	-3.69%
Nasdaq Comp.	13,790.92	-.24	-11.85%
S&P 500	4,401.67	-16.97	-7.65%
S&P 400	2,636.49	-10.97	-7.23%
Wilshire 5000	44,490.09	-170.21	-8.19%
Russell 2000	2,020.79	-9.36	-10.00%

Foreign Exchange

	ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx
Britain	1.3522	.7395
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China	.1573	6.3576
Euro	1.1297	.8852
Japan	.008647	115.65
Mexico	.048887	20.4553

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Prime rate	3.25	3.25	
3-mo. T-Bill	0.46	0.28	
6-mo. T-Bill	0.78	0.59	
5-yr T-Note	1.90	1.76	
10-yr T-Note	1.99	1.91	
30-yr T-Bond	2.30	2.22	

Global Markets

	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	15,113.97	-311.15	-2.02%	-4.85%
London	7,531.59	-129.43	-1.69%	+1.99%
Hong Kong	24,556.57	-350.09	-1.41%	+4.95%
Nikkei	27,079.59	-616.49	-2.23%	-5.95%

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Executive Editor
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OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION



Early last month, the state judicial branch announced a proposal to reopen the Connecticut Juvenile Training School. **MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT**

Legislative proposals would criminalize young people in insidious new ways

By **Kenyatta Muzzanni**

In the past two years, Connecticut residents pushed for and won major reforms of the criminal legal system, including passing legislation on police accountability and the erasure of certain convictions through Clean Slate. And we achieved these victories during one of the largest civil rights uprisings against systemic racism in U.S. history, an extension of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Despite our progress, Connecticut lawmakers and other officials have recommended antiquated “juvenile justice” policies that will harm young people and adults across the state. To protect gains we’ve made and usher in a new era of community-driven change, we must fight for genuine reforms that propel Connecticut forward.

In October, Senate Republicans released “A Better Way to a Safer Connecticut,” a plan that would further criminalize our young people, expand the police state and roll back some of the hard-won

reforms we urgently need. That is anything but a way to improve public safety, especially for young people who are poor, Black, or Latino — and for their communities. And early last month, the state Judicial Branch announced a proposal to reopen the Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS), a prison for young people closed in 2018, after years of organizing and a public outcry against its blatant human rights violations. The \$22 million project would refurbish CJTS for use as a locked “therapeutic” center for kids 17 and younger as they await trial, detaining them when they haven’t been convicted of a crime.

These two proposals would criminalize young people and their families in insidious new ways. Law enforcement in this country has always hyper-surveilled Black and Latino communities, from slave patrols created in the late 1700s to some contemporary school resource officers. Living in overpoliced communities has a damaging and long-lasting effect on young people and the adults they become.

From my experiences in a neigh-

borhood that was heavily surveilled by the police, I know the impact that criminalizing communities of color has. I grew up in housing projects in New York City, in one of the most heavily policed areas in the country. As a young adult during the height of the NYPD’s “stop and frisk” policies, I was frequently and unnecessarily stopped by law enforcement for walking home from school at night, traveling alone in the early morning and even for carrying too many bags on the train. I also grew up near a juvenile detention center. Though I have never gone behind its walls, the orange and white concrete slabs of Brooklyn’s Crossroads Juvenile Detention Center still haunt me. These experiences remain with me to this day, and unfortunately, are far too common.

The constant push for more policing and incarceration reflects and exacerbates ugly forms of racism in Connecticut and throughout the country. Neither offers a legitimate way to improve public safety. Many studies show that to provide a better foundation for young people to survive, we need more investment in our communities, particularly in

housing, health care, education, and jobs. But too many Republicans and Democrats have called for the same tired approaches that don’t make us safer, like the “juvenile justice” plan in Connecticut.

The most effective way to reduce crime and enhance safety is to invest in communities and not in the systems that perpetuate violence. For too long, people of color in Connecticut — especially in Black and Latino communities — have been ravaged by systemic racism, mass criminalization, and mass incarceration. The state spends millions every year to arrest and lock up youth and adults while failing to meet the basic needs of its residents.

To tackle the systemic problems that harm people, lawmakers must decarcerate on the local and state level, close prisons, and dedicate more resources to communities. These priorities will truly bring us closer to making Connecticut safer for all of us.

Kenyatta Muzzanni is Director of Organizing at Katal Center for Equity, Health, and Justice.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

US still supporting Saudi warplanes

Regarding American foreign policy, perhaps the greatest current tragedy involves U.S. support of Saudi Arabia. America provides ongoing maintenance and logistical support for Saudi warplanes, which in turn conduct airstrikes on Yemen, its infrastructure and civilians. President Joe Biden announced that he would end support for the Saudi-led coalition against Yemen, but his announcement lacked follow-through. The U.S. still supplies the Saudis with spare parts for Saudi planes, which enable the Saudis to bomb Yemen.

Nor has Biden demanded that the Saudis end the blockade of Yemeni ports, a blockade that stops the flow of oil and humanitarian supplies into Yemen. The U.S. is not flying its planes to attack the Yemenis, but America is making it possible for the Saudis to attack Yemen with Saudi aircraft, and civilians are dying from starvation and direct attacks because of U.S. support.

Paul Graseck, Pomfret

Leaving Facebook for peace of mind

I had been thinking about quitting Facebook for some time — the bad press, the time suck, concerns about my privacy — but, when I finally decided to pull the plug, it was quick. It’s been close to two months without Facebook and what do I miss? Surprisingly, not much. Most of my time on Facebook was looking at uninteresting stuff, hoping it would become more interesting. And now, I’m getting reports from my husband, mother and friends, providing me the Facebook highlights reel - so-and-so has died, your niece has a new job, your co-worker has posted another cat picture. And I can’t even say I miss the likes. Though I still will have the fleeting

thought that I should take a picture of something so I can ... oh, what was the point of it all, anyway? A strange, exhibitionistic act, and at its best, I subjected people to my vacation photos.

So yes, I’m happy that I quit Facebook. Good riddance. And by the way, I’ve quit all social media. The world may leave me behind, but now I can actually hear myself think.

Amy Terlaga, Hamden

In Darien, they fear kindergartners

“White Fragility” on display: 16 Norwalk kindergartners threaten tranquilly and quality of Darien schools.

David Biklen, West Hartford

Darien has no interest in equality

It was with a sense of dismay that I read of the decision on the part of the Darien Board of Education to refuse to accept 16 kindergartners from nearby Norwalk through the Open Choice Program [courant.com, Feb. 1, “Darien says no to open choice program”]. This decision illustrates the flaw in the recent settlement in the Sheff vs. O’Neil case. Even with a commitment on the part of the state to increase significantly the number of students who can participate in the program, towns may opt out of Open Choice. Affluent towns, in particular, will not be enticed to participate through financial incentives.

As Superintendent Alan Addley so clearly stated, there is no financial downside or, in fact, any downside, to accepting these children. Talk of this being a difficult year to implement an increase because of COVID concerns is a smokescreen for the lack of good will regarding desegregation of Connecticut’s school population. Only through provid-

ing equal opportunities in education and in affordable housing will Connecticut truly eliminate the racism that oppresses our citizens of color.

Mary LaPorte, Hartford

Threats to HBCUs disgusting, unacceptable

February is the month when we remember and celebrate the contributions of African Americans. Yet, the FBI reported that 17 historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and houses of worship were targets of bomb threats and hateful threats of violence. HBCUs are leaders in providing traditionally underrepresented people of color with superior educational opportunities.

It is unacceptable that these institutions should be targeted this month, or any month. We all need to stand together against threats and violence and condemn those misguided few who mark this special month with hate and intimidation.

John Robinson, East Granby

Proto underestimates Connecticut voters

Ben Proto predicting a red wave in Connecticut is simplistic spin bordering on hysteria — or hysterical [Opinion, Feb. 1, “Are we better off after Biden’s first year?”]. He calls Biden’s infrastructure package a spending “boondoggle.” The “supply chains ruined much of the holiday season.” Biden won’t “stand up to Putin.”

What will be hysterical will be Proto’s spin — or squirm — when Donald Trump endorses Bob Stefanowski and Themis Klarides this fall. Red wave? Connecticut voters are much smarter than that.

Brian Duffy, Tariffville

Larson’s approach to improving congressional district doesn’t add up

By **Larry Lazor**

Congressman John Larson recently published an op-ed in this paper about his vision for spending Connecticut’s infrastructure money. His numbers don’t quite add up — nor does his approach to bettering our congressional district.

Let’s start with the numbers. They’re pretty simple — and they don’t make sense. Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Connecticut is due to receive \$6 billion in federal money, only some of which will make its way to the Hartford area. But when Larson’s Hartford 400 plan was released, estimates pegged sinking the highway interchange into a tunnel at \$17 billion — leaving us taxpayers on the hook for billions.

So where would those billions of dollars come from? Notice that Congressman Larson doesn’t mention the cost and ensuing deficit. Based on Congressman Larson’s legislative track record, you can bet it’ll come in the form of higher taxes and more inflation. This type of tax-and-spend governance is part of the reason Connecticut’s economic growth was dead last for all 50 states from 2008-2020.

The dollars don’t make any sense, but is sinking the Hartford highway interchange even a good idea to

begin with? Is a really big tunnel the most effective way to help our struggling neighbors who Congressman Larson mentioned? Is spending billions of dollars on a giant tunnel the most pressing need of Central Connecticut?

We can all agree that this section of the highway system has its flaws and that we need to put money into maintaining our aging infrastructure. Still, sinking the interstates is not a magic bullet. That’s why instead of obsessing over a tunnel, I’m building a vision for sustained economic growth, expanded access to mental and physical health care, and affordable preschool, after school, and career preparation programs for those who need them.

The main “congestion” and “chokehold” plaguing greater Hartford is not trucks on I-91, it’s decades of stagnant, uncreative representation in Congress. Congressman Larson has held this seat since 1999 and it has been in Democratic hands since 1957. We would all benefit from a wider range of parties, ideas, and viewpoints than we’ve seen.

Congressman Larson has spent years of precious time in office peddling this literal pipe dream. Isn’t it time for something different?

Larry Lazor is a Republican running to represent the 1st Congressional District

OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Avon Moreen M. Zachariasen	Other Towns in CT Jeannine A. Boulay John J. Jason Geraldine A. Pasko Charles M. Sakmar Isabel Staib
Bloomfield Doris M. Armstrong Myrna Schaffman	Out of State Harriet A Nirenstein
Bristol Mary E. Battista Pauline S. Casey Lorraine G. Dube Raymond A. Sanders	Plainville Eldon Hafford
East Hartford Gilbert J. Caron	Simsbury Allen Clarke, Jr. James Forzono Harriet A Nirenstein
Ellington Danielle M. Pelley	South Windsor Gilbert J. Caron Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan
Enfield Elaine Andersen Donald M. Cooley William H. Nixon, Jr. Danielle M. Pelley	Southington Ellen J. Beaulieu Eldon Hafford
Farmington Mary E. Battista	Storrs Doris Palmer
Glastonbury Dr. Jack K. Plummer	Torrington James Forzono
Hartford Doris M. Armstrong Patricia White	Vernon Doris Palmer James R. Smith
Manchester Jeannine A. Boulay Lorraine G. Dube Mary Whipple Patricia White	Waterbury Dr. Jack K. Plummer
Meriden Raymond A. Sanders	West Hartford Isabel Staib Rev. Daniel J. Sullivan Linda J. Sundwall
Middletown John J. Jason	Windsor William H. Nixon, Jr.
Newington Paul N. Barr Lisa A. Carrier Lori J. Castellani	Windsor Locks Donald M Cooley

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Castellani, Lori J.



Lori Jean (Burgum) Castellani, 63, of Newington, beloved wife of the late Richard J Castellani, Sr., passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 29 after a long battle with Alzheimer’s. She was born on October 6, 1958 and was the daughter of the late William C Burgum and the late Evelyn (McAuliffe) Burgum of Rocky Hill. Among her love of gardening and reading, her greatest love was her family. Lori was predeceased by her husband, Richard and has missed him terribly since. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Richard and Jescenia Castellani of Columbia, her daughter and her partner, Ashley Castellani and Christopher McLellan of East Berlin and her two granddaughters, Izabelle and Madison. She also leaves her sister and brother-in-law, Caren Knowles and her husband Ken, of Presque Isle, Maine and her brother and sister-in-law, William Burgum and his wife, Jennifer of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Along with her parents and husband she was also predeceased by her brother, Daniel Burgum. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, February 17 from 5-7pm at Rose Hill Funeral Home, 580 Elm St., Rocky Hill. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Friday, February 18, 2022 at 11am at Christ the King Parish, Corpus Christi Church, 601 Silas Deane Hwy, Wethersfield. Everyone is asked to please go directly to the church. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in her memory to the Alzheimer’s Association, act.alz.org. Please share online expressions of sympathy, memories or photo tributes at www.rosehillfuneralhomes.com

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Palmer, Doris



Doris Elizabeth Palmer of Storrs, CT, passed away peacefully on February 8, 2022, at 99 years of age, far longer than she expected and far shorter than her family and friends would have preferred. Doris was born on a family farm outside Cavalier, North Dakota, on August 7, 1922 (“Just two years after women got the right to vote”) to Harold and Mathilda Rickbeil. She met and married her husband, Francis Palmer, October 10, 1942. Frank passed away almost exactly twenty years ago. This year would have been their 80th anniversary. Together they raised a family of 5 boys, Lawrence (Samantha) of Tucson AZ, James formerly of Bowie MD, Thomas (Beverly) of Glendale Heights IL, David (W.C.) of Storrs CT, Jeffrey (Victoria) of Greenfield MA and, finally, a beautiful daughter, Anne of Vernon CT. Doris did not play favorites and treated all her children with equal amounts of love, encouragement, and pride in their accomplishments. As a result, six very different kids loved her (and each other) unconditionally, which made for the best holiday gatherings but also for the many broken hearts today. Doris was the matriarch of the large clan of Rickbeils that stretches from coast to coast and north to south. One of her great joys in the past decade were the biennial family reunions that allowed her to help keep the family connections and history alive. She was predeceased by her son, Jim, daughters-in-law Bev and Janet and five of her seven siblings. She is survived by her sisters, Maurine Joppe (Phoenix, AZ) and Lois Nielsen (Shell Lake, WI), nine grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren (with one more on the way). Although she out-lived most of her contemporaries, she continued to make new friends all her life, read two newspapers a day, and lived independently until the last weeks of her life. Late in life Doris returned to administrative work at UConn in the Animal Sciences Department before retiring in 1989. She loved all things UConn, especially the women’s basketball team (from Field House days), the Jorgensen, the Benton Museum and the Summer Nutmeg Theater. She would want us to acknowledge the caring staff at Windham Hospital and Mansfield Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation as well as the wonderful staff and residents of Juniper Hill Village, where she spent the last 19 years. A humble person, Doris requested a simple obituary, but then no amount of words could really do justice to the enormity of her many contributions to making the world around her a better, kinder place. Doris sought out the beauty and goodness in all people and things and would want everyone to do the same. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in her name to Windham Area Interfaith Ministries (waimct.org), Ecole Agape (friendsofecoleagape.org), or any of the wonderful organizations mentioned above. Calling Hours for family and friends will be at Potter Funeral Home, 456 Jackson St. Willimantic on Friday, February 25th, from 4:00pm to 6:00 pm and a Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 46 N. Eagleville Rd. Storrs on Saturday, February 26th at 10:00am. For an online memorial guestbook, please visit www.potterfuneralhome.com

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OBITUARIES

Cooley, Donald M

Donald M. Cooley, 64, of Enfield, beloved husband of Cynthia (Pitts) Cooley, passed away unexpectedly on January 31, 2022. He was the son of the late Donald R. Cooley and Elizabeth A. (Damon) Cooley Aderman. Donald was a United States Army veteran. He was employed as an assistant manager for Corky’s, Carquest, and Advance Auto Parts in Windsor Locks. Outside of work, he enjoyed NASCAR, classic cars, travel, and scenic photography. In addition to his wife Cynthia, Donald leaves behind his sister Patricia Frillici and her husband Thomas, his sister Joan Lady, and many nieces, nephews, extended family, dear friends, and neighbors. His family will receive relatives and friends from 5 to 7 pm on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels, 61 South Rd., Enfield. A funeral service will be celebrated for Donald at 10:30 am on Thursday, February 17, at the funeral home. Burial will follow in St. Catherine’s Cemetery, East Windsor. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the animal rescue of your choice. For online condolences, please visit www.leetestevens.com.

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Plummer, Dr. Jack K.



Dr. Jack K. Plummer, 85, of Glastonbury, CT, died peacefully at his home on Saturday, January 22, 2022. In November, he was predeceased by his much-loved wife and best friend, Lynn Marie (McGrath) Tata Plummer. Born in Bridgeport, Nebraska, he was the son of the late Donald “Jack” Plummer and Reatha Fern (VanNatter). He attended

Bridgeport High School (Class of 1954) prior to receiving a bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Nebraska Wesleyan University, where he was a dedicated member of the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity. Upon completing his internship at Connecticut Valley Hospital in Middletown, CT, he received his Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska (Go Big Red!) and began his career at the former Undercliff Mental Health Center in Meriden, CT. Jack was a pioneer in his time and had a successful career as Director of Psychology at Gaylord Specialty Healthcare in Wallingford, CT, where he created Connecticut’s first traumatic brain injury program. Following retirement from Gaylord, he continued with his independent practice in family therapy in dual offices in Meriden and Litchfield, CT, until the age of 75. He served as President of the Connecticut Psychological Association and served on the board of directors on numerous occasions. He also served as an officer and representative on several committees and councils of the American Psychological Association. He received many awards and recognition for distinguished contributions in his profession while serving others. In 2016, he was honored by his alma mater with a prestigious Alumni Medal of Honor for community and vocational achievement. However, Jack’s most enduring gifts and legacies have been to those he supervised and mentored and were lifelong colleagues with whom he shared deep friendships. Jack and his wife Lynn provided ongoing enrichment for the Connecticut Psychological Association through “The Jack and Lynn Plummer Lectureship Series.” They were also donors of the Harry and Reba Huge Foundation, providing scholarship opportunities for students who demonstrated a drive and desire to succeed. This program is shared by the Citadel, the University of Tartu in Estonia, Nebraska Wesleyan University, and the College of Charleston. Jack is survived by his daughter Kristen (Plummer) Rowland along with her husband Glenn of Sandy Springs, GA and grandchildren Jacob and Hannah, his daughter Stacey Tata and her husband Dr. Aaron Denowitz of Los Angeles, CA, his sister Lori Callahan and niece Rachel Callahan of Eugene, Oregon, as well as his brother-in-law Thomas McGrath and sister-in-law Patricia Travisano and her husband Richard, Sr. of The Villages, FL, along with their children, Kristen Touissant of Indianapolis, IN and Richard Travisano, Jr. of Mitchell, IN. As requested, no services are planned at this time. There are no calling hours. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanfh.com.

MULRYAN
FUNERAL HOME

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Sullivan, Reverend Daniel J.



Reverend Daniel Jeremiah Sullivan, 84 of West Hartford died peacefully, Friday, February 11, 2022, after a long illness. Born in Hartford, son of the late Timothy and Nellie (O’Sullivan) Sullivan he was raised in Hartford attending St. Peter’s School and St. Thomas Seminary. Growing up Father Dan was an outstanding athlete playing both basketball and baseball and was named one of the top twenty athletes ever to come from Hartford. Offers of both basketball and baseball professional careers were not as strong as following his call to the priesthood where he graduated with his BA in Philosophy and Theology from St Mary’s Seminary and University, Baltimore, MD. He was ordained by The Most Reverend Henry J. O’Brien May 24, 1963, and served parishes in Wethersfield, Newington, Guilford, Wolcott, West Haven, Orange, and Wallingford. He served St. Margaret Mary Parish in South Windsor from 1984- 2013 before his retirement. After retirement he enjoyed helping his friend, Rev. Dr. John McHugh at the Church of Saint Ann in Avon. Father Dan also had served as Chaplain for the CT Army National Guard during his period of service. He always carried his love for sports and served as the chaplain for the UCONN Football team during Coach Randy Edsell’s tenure. Father Dan had a lifelong love of golf which he enjoyed with his brother, Father Jack Sullivan up until two years before his death. He was an active golfer in several Hartford area golf clubs and was always invited to complete a foursome because of his skills. Many of his golfing friends referred to him as “America’s Guest”. Father Dan also loved the weeks he and his brother spent at the “Big East Playoffs” in Madison Square Garden for many years. Besides his brother, Reverend John P. “Jack” Sullivan of West Hartford with whom he made his home; he leaves a sister Maureen Bacon and her husband Erwin of Cornish, ME; and several nieces and nephews. Besides his parents he was predeceased by a brother Timothy B. Sullivan. Father Sullivan will lie in state and his family will receive friends at the Church of Saint Ann, 289 Arch Road, Avon on Friday, February 18, 2022, from 9:30 am-10:45 am, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11 am with the Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop of Hartford as the principal celebrant. His brother, The Reverend John P. Sullivan, will concelebrate and be the homilist. Burial will follow in Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Memorial Donations for the support of senior priests may be made to the Benevolent Association for Priests of the Archdiocese of Hartford, 134 Farmington Ave., Hartford, CT 06105. The Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center of Avon is Caring for the Arrangements. For directions or condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

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Battista, Mary E.

Mary E. Battista, 93, of Bristol, passed away on Saturday, February 12, 2022. She was born on December 29, 1928 in Bristol, Daughter of Alton and Grace (Teeter) Webb. Mary was the loving wife of the late Paul Battista whom passed away in 2018. Mary enjoyed fishing, camping and cooking for her grandchildren. Most of all she loved her family and will be missed dearly. Mary is survived by her sons Steve Battista and his wife Birute of Farmington, David Battista of Farmington; daughter Antoinette Butler and her husband John of SC; grandchildren John Jr. and his wife Jessica, Paula and her husband Adam, Jay and his wife Amy, Jim and his wife Karen and Josh; great-grandchildren Brandon and his wife Stephanie, Megan, Austin, Ryan, Kate and Olivia; great great-grandchildren Madison, Cole, Elliott, Makenzie and several nieces and nephews. Besides her husband and parents, Mary is predeceased by her brothers Kenny, Al and Bromley Webb. A Memorial Mass will be held directly at St. Gregory Church, 235 Maltby St., Bristol on Friday, February 18, 2022 at 11AM. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery, Bristol. In Lieu of flowers, please donate to St. Gregory church, 235 Maltby St. Bristol CT 06010. To leave an online message of condolence, share a memory or a photo, please visit Mary’s tribute page at www.OBrien-FuneralHome.com.



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Clarke Jr, Allen



Allen Gordon Clarke Jr., 92, passed away on February 1st at Edgewood Retirement Community in North Andover MA. Born June 1, 1929 in Boston, MA, he was the son of Henrietta LeStage Clarke and Allen Gordon Clarke Sr.

Gordon graduated from The Hill School and then Williams College where he played lacrosse, ski patrolled and was a proud and loyal member of the class of 1951. After college he served as a lieutenant in the Navy on The USS Olmstead in the Mediterranean. He married Karen Brown in 1954 and settled in Simsbury, CT where they raised their two daughters. He retired in 1994 as Business Manager of The Ethel Walker School. Karen predeceased him in 2010.

Gordon was an Eagle Scout and an avid outdoorsman. He was a particularly keen hiker and a highly-rated Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) whitewater paddler and trip leader. In retirement he and Karen moved to Falmouth, ME where he was an active member of several land conservation organizations and a devoted steward of Karen’s family home on Casco Bay. Gordon also volunteered for years as an AMC trail “maintainer” becoming a certified sawyer and clearing and maintaining a section of the of the Appalachian Trail in Carrying Place, Township, ME.

Gordon was a life-long supporter of the American Red Cross donating countless pints over the years and in retirement became a platelet donor.

He is survived by daughters, Kristina Clarke of Petaluma, CA and Amanda Clarke Shipley of Andover, MA as well as son-in-law, N. Louis Shipley and grandchildren Gordon Clarke Shipley, Caroline Clarke Shipley, and Vanessa Clarke Shipley.

A memorial service is being planned for early June at State Street Church, Portland, ME. Details will be made available through Burke-Maglioizzi Funeral home, Andover, MA.

The family is grateful to the staff of The Meadows at Edgewood Retirement Community for the gentle care they provided Gordon.

Donations in Gordon’s memory may be made to Boy Scouts of America, Pine Tree Council or Maine Appalachian Trail Club. All who knew and cared for him are encouraged to donate blood with The American Red Cross. For additional information, please visit, www.burkemaglioizzi.com.

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Schaffman, Myrna



Myrna (Kaplan) Schaffman, 86, of Bloomfield, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2022, with family by her side after a courageous battle with dementia. She was born in Brooklyn, NY, on August 30, 1935, to Barnett “Willie” & Betty “Bessie” Kaplan. Myrna was proud of her Brooklyn & Jewish heritage. After graduating High School at 16, she attended The Brooklyn Jewish School for Nursing and became a Registered Nurse at 19. Myrna had already met the love of her life, Marvin, whom she was married to for over 65 years. They raised their 3 children in Bloomfield, which remained their home for 6 decades. She was a Head Nurse & Discharge Planner at St. Francis Hospital for nearly 40 years. Myrna enjoyed swimming, reading, and attending dance & theatre performances with her beloved husband, family, and friends. A gifted artist who could draw and paint with the best, Myrna’s favorite activity was traveling with her best friend, Marv. They were fortunate to experience many national parks, diverse cultures, and magnificent beaches. Spending time with family was Myrna’s most precious part of her life. Myrna adored her grandkids. She braved cold hockey rinks, basked in the sun at baseball games, and never missed a dance recital or school performance. Myrna was a true “hands on” Grandma. She was a long-time congregant at Beth Hillel Synagogue and served on just about every committee they had. She volunteered at the American Cancer Society, local elementary schools, and was a member of the Jewish Nurses Society. Myrna was the Matriarch, who will be dearly missed by her husband, Marvin, son Philip and Melissa, daughter Karen and son-in-law Gali Goldwaser. Myrna was predeceased by her son, Paul. She also leaves her adored grandchildren; Laurel, Alana, Michael, and Scott, her brother Ed and his wife, Judy, and their sons; Micah, Dave, and Adam who were more like grandkids to her than nephews. Myrna was blessed to have many special cousins, with Reva Wolitzky her dear confidant. She shared good times and hard times with her dear friends and acquaintances and Shirley Morrison was beyond special in Myrna’s world. The funeral will be graveside, with Rabbi David Small officiating, at the Beth Hillel Memorial Park Cemetery, on Tuesday, February 15 at 1PM, at 15 Wolcott Road, E. Granby. Shiva will be observed Tuesday and Wednesday at 4PM at the Emanuel Synagogue, 160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford with a service following at 5:15PM. In lieu of flowers, donations in Myrna’s memory may be made to the National Association For Mental Illness or Emanuel Synagogue. May her memory be a source of strength and a blessing. Funeral arrangements provided by Hebrew Funeral Association, West Hartford.

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Visit the obituary section on courant.com to share memories of loved ones.

OBITUARIES

Hafford, Eldon



Eldon Hafford, 81, of Southington, passed away on Wednesday, February 9, 2022. Born in Allagash, ME, son of the late Alfred and Bernice Hafford, he was a longtime resident of Plainville and New Britain prior to living in Southington. Eldon was active in the food industry for many years. In 2016, he retired as Executive Director at Southington Bread for Life. His previous experience included: Restaurant Manager, Head Chef, Food Service Director, President of Connecticut Food Service Association and owner of Eldon's Catering. He served on several church boards and committees. He attended First Church of Christ in Southington. Eldon's passion was helping those in need. Eldon shared his joy for cooking with loved ones. He was an avid baker and prepared many culinary treats for every occasion. He enjoyed quality time with his family, often teaching them how to prepare his specialties. He leaves his daughter, Lisa McAloon and her husband Daniel of Newington, his son, Malcolm Hafford of Middletown, his three grandchildren, Ashlin, Calie, and Tyler, and great grandchild, Isabella Cirillo. He also leaves seven siblings and the mother of his children, Brenda Dubnansky of Bristol. Eldon will be missed by those he loved and served over the years. His family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the staff at Southington Care for the compassion and care shown to Eldon and his family. All services will be private with Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington. Memorial donations may be made in his memory to the American Cancer Society (www.cancer.org) or Bread for Life (<https://southingtonbreadforlife.org>). To share a memory with his family, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



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Pelley, Danielle M. (Haun)



Danielle M. Pelley, 38, beloved wife of Ronald Pelley Jr. and Mom to Evan (age 17) and Lucas (age 7), passed away after a sudden illness on Wednesday, February 9, 2022.

Danielle is the daughter of Hugh and Cheryl (Carpenter) Haun and grew up in Enfield, born in Hartford, CT on September 18, 1983, graduating from Enfield High School, class of 2002. Danielle and Ron's fate started as children which would turn into true love once they reunited years later as young adults in 2002. They married in 2014, began raising their children in Ellington and finally resided in Stafford Springs.

Danielle devoted her life to her family and the Lord Jesus Christ. She led many people to Jesus through her living example and overcoming testimony. The simplest pleasures in life brought great joy to Danielle and her Spirit filled personality was contagious to everyone she met. Her unconditional love shined brightest while raising her family and embracing us all with her overflowing joy. As a faithful wife, loving mother to her boys, daughter, sister and friend, she will be missed by so many.

Besides her husband Ron, sons Evan and Lucas, parents Hugh and Cheryl, she leaves two brothers, Jeffrey Haun and Hugh Haun III; her grandmother, Ethel Carpenter; her in-laws, Ronald and Maria Pelley, and Sandra Pelley; and all the extended Pelley, Haun, and Carpenter families. She was predeceased by grandparents, Foster Carpenter, and William and Helen Haun.

Her family will receive friends on Thursday, February 17 from 4-7 pm at Leete-Stevens Enfield Chapels, 61 South Rd., Enfield. Her Funeral Service will take place on Friday, February 18 at 11 am at Living Waters Fellowship Church, 200 Spring St. Windors Locks. Please meet directly at the church. Burial will follow in St. Patrick King St. Cemetery, Enfield. For online condolences please visit www.leetestelevens.com.

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Zachariasen, Moreen M (Dick)



Moreen Mary Zachariasen, 87, a longtime resident of Avon, CT, died peacefully in her sleep on February 4, 2022. Born April 5, 1934, in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Moreen was predeceased by her husband, Roy, in February 1992, and more recently, her brother Trevor. Moreen arrived in the US on Easter Sunday, 1956, to marry

her sailor after becoming engaged just five days after meeting, when Roy's Navy ship came into port. The story of their romance earned them an invitation to marry on the Bride and Groom television show, then hosted by the late Ed McMahon in 1957. She and Roy were thrilled that producers also flew her mother and brother to the US as a surprise, and they chose to stay permanently.

Moreen worked in the Business Office at Avon Old Farms School until her retirement in 2004. She loved volunteering at the UConn Health Center in Farmington, being a member of the Garden Club of Avon, and, later in life, traveling. She visited Egypt and Russia and returned "home" to Ireland whenever possible. Moreen was a 50-year communicant at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Avon and adored her "Pastor Julie and Pastor Brian."

Moreen leaves behind daughter Kimberly Benedix and her husband Mark, and their daughter Jillian, in Somers, CT, and her daughter Tracey Hache and her husband Conrad, and their children Cameron, Braden, and Elise Hache, all of Newmarket, Ontario. She also leaves her best friend Carolyn Kershner, in Atlanta, with whom she became overseas penpals in 1943. Moreen also leaves her extended family both in the US and throughout Ireland.

Moreen was well-known for her love of animals, adopting several dogs, cats, and birds over her lifetime, and being known in her neighborhood as the one to heal all varieties of injured woodland creatures. Therefore, in lieu of flowers, please honor Moreen with a donation to her favorite animal rescue, The Simon Foundation, 120 Rescue Lane, Bloomfield, CT, 06002.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Forzono, James

James Forzono, 60, of Simsbury, beloved husband of Susan (Tanis) Forzono, died Friday, February 11, 2022 at UConn John Dempsey Hospital. He was born June 30, 1961 in Suffern, NY, son of the late Carmine and Marie (Coyne) Forzono and had lived in Tuxedo, NY prior to moving to Simsbury 35 years ago. Jamie was a graduate of Ramapo College in NJ having received his Bachelor's Degree in Operations Management. He served in the Air National Guard in Ohio and New York and was a Parts Manager for Torrington Toyota for many years. While in New York, Jamie was a member the Tuxedo Fire Department and Ambulance Corp. After moving to Connecticut, he was a member of the Simsbury Volunteer Fire Department, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, the Irish American Home Society, and the Knights of Columbus. He cherished and celebrated his Irish heritage by traveling to Ireland, spending time with his Irish Wolfhounds, and being heavily involved in the local Irish community. Jamie loved to travel, especially to Ireland, Lake George, and Florida. He was an avid gardener and enjoyed being outdoors taking care of his yard. He had a soft spot in his heart for animals, having adopted 16 Greyhounds and saving some wildlife along the way. Most of all, Jamie enjoyed spending time with family and his many friends, leaving behind many memories we all hold dearly.

In addition to his loving wife of 36 years, James leaves his three children, Nicholas Forzono of Simsbury, Emily Forzono and fiancé Jose Garcia of Omaha, NE, and Tyler Forzono of Simsbury; his brothers, John Forzono and Carmine Forzono, Jr. and wife Josee; his mother-in-law, Clara Tanis; brother-in-law, Ned Rupp; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Mark and Karen Westervelt and his nieces and nephew. He was predeceased by his sister, Patricia Rupp.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, February 18th from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Vincent Funeral Home, 880 Hopmeadow Street in Simsbury. Funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 AM on Saturday, February 19th at St. Mary's Church, 942 Hopmeadow Street in Simsbury. Burial will be private. Donations in his memory may be made to The Carole and Ray Neag Comprehensive Cancer Center Endowment Fund at UConn Health or to Closer to Free at Yale New Haven Health. Please visit Jamie's "Book of Memories" at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

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Smith, James "Jim" R.



James "Jim" R. Smith, 81, longtime resident of Vernon and beloved husband of 48 years to Ann (Granger) Smith, passed unexpectedly on Friday, February 11th, 2022. James was born on October 30th, 1940, as the loving son of the late Clifford and Lena Smith. He was a graduate of Sacred Heart High School in Waterbury and later graduated from the University of Hartford with his



BA. James had a career as a Procurement Specialist for over 39 years with Pratt & Whitney until his formal retirement in 1999 and as an independent contractor thereof for subsequent years. James was a proud veteran of the United States Army. In addition to his beloved Ann, he is survived by his three children Erin Smith Doolittle of Manchester, Michael Smith and partner Danna Freedman-Shara of Riverside, Rhode Island, and Jennifer Samborski and husband Dana of Hermitage, TN. He also leaves three siblings, brother Gary Smith and wife Linda, sister Donna Birmingham and husband Tom, and brother Ken Smith and wife Maribel. Calling hours will be at the Ladd-Turkington & Carmon Funeral Home at 551 Talcottville Road of Vernon, CT on Wednesday, February 16th, 2022 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. James Church, 896 Main Street, Manchester on Thursday, February 17th, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. with Full Military Honors to follow at the church. The burial will be privately held at a later date. In lieu of flowers or gifts, memorial contributions may be made to Foodshare, 450 Woodland Ave., Bloomfield CT, 06002, The Cornerstone Foundation, P.O. Box 3, 15 Prospect Street, Vernon CT, 06066-9998, or the Disabled American Veterans. To leave an online condolence please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Whipple, Mary



Mary Elizabeth Whipple (84) of Coventry, CT, passed away on February 11th, 2022. Daughter of the late Clayo and Marcia (Robbins) McGrath-Orlowski in Gardner, MA. She graduated from Templeton High School in Templeton, MA. and the family moved to Connecticut soon after.

She met her future husband while playing cards with friends one evening in Manchester, CT. Mary and Ernest made their home in Coventry, CT for their 46 years of marriage, they raised their family of seven children in that home. Mary worked at UConn, the Storrs campus, for over 18 years and she was a devoted fan of UConn women's Husky basketball. She was a regular bowler of more than four decades, during which time, she and Ernest bowled at Manchester's Parkade Lanes, Vernon Lanes and Silver Lanes in East Hartford. She enjoyed playing card games and dominoes with the family. Mary was also a long-time member of Bolton United Methodist Church.

Mary is predeceased by her beloved Husband of 46 years, Ernest Whipple; sister Dorothy (Dottie) Wuoti; and brother Paul McGrath.

She is survived by her sister Natalie Smith; brother Robert Orlowski; children Maryanne Bucher, Bette Fielding and husband Brian, Debbie Ogden and husband David, Bernice Fritz and her Fiancé Eric Finkbeiner, Ernest Whipple, Jr. and wife Corey, Sharon Whipple and Eric Whipple; grandchildren Thomas Fielding, Stephen Fielding, Tiffany (Fielding) Richards and her husband Tyler, Ashley Ogden and her Fiancé Jonathan Ellis, Erin Ogden, Courtney (Whipple) Hall and husband AJ, Kimberly McKenna, Joshua Fritz, Rebecca Fritz; great-grandchildren Taylor Ogden and Emily Hall.

Mary was known for her sarcastic sense of humor and quick wit. Words cannot adequately describe our mother. She is now and will always be, dearly missed.

Funeral Services will be at 11:00am on Thursday, February 17th at Holmes-Watkins Funeral Home at 400 Main St., Manchester, CT the family will receive friends and relatives one hour prior. Interment will follow at Hills Town Road Veterans Cemetery. Those wishing to view the live stream of the service or leave messages of condolence may do so at www.holmeswatkins.com

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Barr, Paul N.



school sweetheart, Norine. After high school Paul joined the Airforce, where he proudly served for four years. He then worked in Industry and Insurance before attending Springfield Technical College.

He was proud of the work he did for 26 years as a Hartford Firefighter, retiring as a Lieutenant at age 57. He also served as a Volunteer Firefighter in Newington for 23 years.

He loved attending all of his grandchildren's sporting events and activities. Wherever his family was, that's where he wanted to be. He enjoyed golf, playing cards, and spending summers at his family lake house.

Paul was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Paul is survived by his three children, his son, Scott Barr and wife Lisa; daughters Jodi Rooke and husband Tom, and Erika Ambruso and husband Michael; 6 grandchildren, Katelynn Burtis and husband Chris, Jacqueline Barr, Tyler Rooke and wife Rachel, Garrett Rooke and wife Mikala, Alexis Pena and husband Nathan and Mitchell Ambruso; 4 great-grandchildren, Max, Cameron, Caysen and Kymmy. He was predeceased by his brother David Barr.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Paul's family on Thursday, February 17th, from 10 a.m. to 11am at Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Avenue, Newington. His memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. The service will be live streamed online at <https://my.gather.app/remember/paul-n-barr>. Burial will be private. Paul's family asks that everyone in attendance please wear a mask. Memorial donations may be made to the Newington Volunteer Fire Department, 1485 Main St., Newington, CT 06111 or the American Cancer Society, 825 Brook St., I-91 Tech Center, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. To share a condolence with his family, please visit www.duksa.net.



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Nirenstein, Harriet A (Shapiro)



Harriet Ann Nirenstein (Shapiro), 79, of Wayland, MA and formerly West Simsbury, CT passed away peacefully on Friday, February 11 surrounded by her loving husband and three daughters. Harriet was the treasured wife of Ken for 53 years, the most amazing mother to her three daughters, Faith Krasnow and her husband

Mark of Sudbury, MA, Melissa Berkowitz and her husband Adam of South Natick, MA, and Julie Green and her husband Matt of West Simsbury, CT. She was the adored Grammy to Jonah, Benjamin and Eliana Krasnow, Halle and Lily Berkowitz, and Alexa and Gabriel Green. Harriet was the devoted daughter of the late Arthur and Sara Shapiro. She leaves behind many beloved relatives and friends, including her sister Jane Shapiro, who was so special to her.

Harriet was born on January 3, 1943 in Cambridge, MA to the late Arthur and Sara Shapiro. She grew up in Auburn, Maine and from the time she was a little girl spent her summers at her parents' beach house in Pine Point, Maine. She was thrilled to continue sharing that tradition with her growing family over the years, never missing a summer walking the beach.

Harriet and Ken got married in 1968 and settled in West Simsbury, CT. She began her career as a teacher and was proud to go back to school to obtain her master's degree in English as a Second Language. She loved teaching and meeting students from all over the world in her role as a professor at the University of Hartford. Harriet enjoyed traveling with Ken, shopping, and spending time with her family. The many that loved her will miss the sparkle in her eye, her beautiful smile, her humor, her fashion advice, and her kindness.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Dana Farber Cancer Institute. Also, please consider honoring her memory and wishes by donating blood to the American Red Cross, particularly during this critical blood shortage.

Funeral services will be held at noon on Tuesday, February 15 at Weinstein Mortuary at 640 Farmington Avenue in Hartford. For those joining in person, please follow COVID precautions and wear a mask. For those unable to join in person, the service will be available virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7518169591?pwd=WEtmdUzlZ2b1AzaVlyVWVow4dlVktGTG0xdz09>

• Meeting ID: 751 816 9591
• Passcode: 2ubVKX
Shiva at the home of Julie and Matt Green on Tuesday, February 15 from 3:30 – 7:00 with service at 6:00 p.m.

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Sundwall, Linda Jean



Linda Jean Sundwall, 82, of West Hartford, died peacefully, February 9, 2022, at her home. Born in New York, the daughter of the late Edwin and Jean, she was raised in Old Lyme by the Swanson family. She attended the University of Iowa and was employed by the State of Connecticut Department of Education for 30 years. Linda

was an avid reader and enjoyed skiing in Stowe, VT. She and her sister traveled throughout Europe and their last trip was South Africa. She is survived by her two brothers, John Elliott Swanson, Norman Pratt Swanson; her sister Patricia Ann Thurz with whom she shared a home; many nieces, nephews and close friends. The funeral will be Wednesday (2/16) at 10:00 a.m. at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. Donations in her memory may be made to the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

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OBITUARIES

Dube, Lorraine G.



Lorraine G. Dube, 93, of Bristol, passed away on Thursday, February 10, 2022. She was born on March 25, 1928 in Yalesville, daughter of the late Harry and Mildred (Beers) Griffin. Lorraine was the loving wife of the late Eugene Dube who passed away in 2001. She was a LPN, an avid reader and loved her family dearly. In her final five years, Lorraine resided at Komanetsky Estates where she made many friends and participated in many activities there like bingo and riding her scooter to the senior center. Lorraine is survived by her son Thomas Keithan and his wife Irene Keithan of North Canton OH; daughter Harriet Reilly and her husband Kevin of Manchester; grandchildren Jamie Keithan of Meriden, Jennifer McCann and her husband Shane of West Hartford, Cristen McClendon of South Windsor, Ryan Bushey of Enfield, Stephanie Keithan of South Windsor, Christopher Keithan and wife Jennifer of North Canton OH, Rosie Keithan of New Britain, Patrick Keithan of Bristol; great-grandchildren Jack, William and Lauren McCann, Celina Keithan, Makayla Turpenning and husband Shaun, Madison Sserunjogi, Noah Keithan,, Alaina Keithan, and great great-grandchildren Oliver Fracasso, Levi and Caleb Turpenning and Adalyn Capre-Dube. Besides her husband and parents, Lorraine is predeceased by her son Robert Keithan, sister Barbara Fitton, nephew William Brooks and son in law Bradley Bushey. Calling hours will be held at O'Brien Funeral Home on Thursday, February 17, 2022 starting at 10AM until an 11AM funeral home service will begin. Burial will follow at St. John Cemetery, Wallingford. To leave an online message of condolence, share a memory or a photo, please visit Lorraine's tribute page at www.O'Brien-FuneralHome.com.



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Pasko, Geraldine A.

NEW HARTFORD – Geraldine (Geri) Pasko, 88, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on February 13, 2022. She was born November 22, 1933 in Boston, MA to the late Michael and Elizabeth (Patch) Pasko. She was the loving partner of Christine Calder who preceded her in death in 2010. Geri also had a strong love for her puppy "Lucky" who will miss her dearly. She enjoyed the wildlife and especially her frequent visits from her bear friends. Geri was the Post Master in Pine Meadow and New Hartford for many years. She loved sharing stories of her past experiences including the flood of 55 and how it impacted her hometown of New Hartford. She leaves behind sisters Shirley Taylor, Laura Kosman and a brother Michael Pasko and wife Rhonda, and many nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and great-great nieces and nephews. In addition to her devoted partner Christine, she was predeceased by her sister Pauline Hawthorne. A Mass of Christian burial will be held on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at Our Lady of Hope Parish, New Hartford at 1 PM. Burial will be held at Village Cemetery, New Hartford in the spring. Montano-Shea Funeral Home, 5 Steele Road, New Hartford has care of the arrangements. Visit an online guestbook at montano-shea.com.

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Nixon, Jr., William H.



William H. Nixon, Jr., 89, of Somers, beloved husband of the late Barbara (Lothrop), Nixon passed away on Friday, February 11, 2022. Born May 19, 1932 in Hartford, son of the late William and Grace (Hamrick) Nixon, he lived in Windsor, Enfield, retired to Hudson, FL and moved to Somers seven years ago. William proudly served with the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Before retiring he worked many years for Sweet Life Foods as a forklift operator. He and Barbara loved to travel and continued the adventure in their motorhome upon his retirement. Together, they were able to visit 47 states. He is survived by his son, Mark Nixon and his wife, Trudy of Enfield; four daughters, Linda Fisher of Springfield, MA, Susan Conte and her husband Lorenzo Conte, Sr. of Somers, Pamela Phelan and her husband, William of Enfield, Cheryl Levasseur and her husband, David of Virginia Beach, VA; his grandchildren; Karen Nixon and her fiancé, James Drexler, Stephen Nixon and his fiancé, Alexandria O'Neill, and Daniel Nixon, Lorenzo Conte, Jr. and Anthony Conte, Michael Phelan, Kelly Barile and her husband, Daniel, DJ Levasseur and Kelsie Levasseur; and three great grandchildren. His family will receive friends on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 from 5-7 PM at Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home, 443 East St, N. (Rt. 159), Suffield. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at 10:00 AM at Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home. Burial will be in Hazardville Cemetery, Enfield. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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Sanders, Raymond A

Raymond A. Sanders, husband of Maria Vaivao Sanders, passed away on February 2, 2022 in Meriden. Ray was born in Vermont on April 9, 1940. He was the son of Robert Sanders and Leonard and Helen Petruzzi. His family moved to Bristol and he was educated in local schools. At 17, he enlisted in the US Marine Corp. He was deployed to Lebanon with a Marine intervention force during the Lebanon Crisis of 1958. He spent the duration of his service at Pearl Harbor, in Hawaii where he met his wife Maria.

Ray is survived by his wife and his children: Maria Key of Las Vegas, NV, Raymond (Sue) Sanders of Prospect, Thomas (Debbie) Sanders of Tolland, Leonard (Sue) Sanders of Bonney Lake Washington, Elizabeth (Johnny) Johnston of Suffield, Patricia Sanders of Angier, NC and Alton Jones of Ellington. He also leaves 10 Grandchildren, 10 Great-Grandchildren, one sister Judy (Larry) Tallman of Bristol and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents and 3 sisters: Ruth Holden, Rita Strahowski and Riva Paris.

Ray retired from New Departure-Hyatt in Bristol. He had a second career as an armored car driver for the Brinks Security. He and Maria spent their retirement in Honolulu and American Samoa.

A memorial Requiem Mass was held for Raymond's family members at St. Matthew Church in Forestville. His ashes will be returned to his beloved home in American Samoa.

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Boulay, Jeannine A.



Jeannine Adele (St. Onge) Boulay, 77, passed away at her home on Wednesday, February 9, 2022. She was born in Putnam, CT on April 24, 1944, to the late Normand and Yvette (Pepin) St. Onge. She was educated in Putnam Schools and later married Henry J. Boulay and the couple celebrated over 42 years in marriage before his passing on Feb. 28, 2005. Jeannine worked for many years at Mansfield Training School and was a member of the CSEA Union. She also spent 20 years in Leesburg, FL where she and her husband made many friends. She is survived by her daughter, Michele Reale (Daniel) of Manchester; her son, Stephen (Deanna) Boulay of Coventry; her three grandchildren, Christopher Yates of Chaplin, CT, Joshua Boulay and Sara Boulay both of Coventry and her great granddaughter, Skylar Yates; her siblings, Donald (Denise) St. Onge, Denise (Armand) LaFleur and Anne (David) Kelly all of FL. She also leaves her sister-in-law, Suzanne St. Onge and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Jeannine was also predeceased by two brothers, Albert and Andre St. Onge. Visiting hours will be held on Thursday, February 17, 2022, from 5-7PM at the John F. Tierney Funeral Home, 219 W. Center St., Manchester, CT 06040. Her funeral will begin at 9AM from the funeral home and conclude with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 10AM in St. Bartholomew Church, 45 Ludlow Rd., Manchester. If friends desire, memorial donations in Jeannine's name can be made to The Helen & Harry Gray Cancer Center, 85 Retreat Ave., Hartford, CT 06102, ATTN: Robin. Please visit www.tierneyfuneralhome.com for more details.



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Jason, John J.

John Jacob Jason "Jack", 86, of Canterbury, precious husband of Charlotte "Char Lee" Jason passed away Friday, February 11, 2022 with Char Lee by his side. He was born March 22, 1935 in Middletown, CT, son of Jacob Jasion and Josephine Moncada Jasion. He attended Middletown High and later Hillyer College. Jack served in the Army during the Korean conflict in Japan from 1953-1956. Jack is survived by his beloved wife Char Lee with whom he celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary on February 8th. He is also survived by his cherished brother Louie Jasion and his wife Shirley of Cromwell and his dear younger sister, Denise Salafia of Middletown and her son, Brett John Salafia of East Hampton. He is also survived by Char Lee's sisters: Dixie Lee Tipton and her husband Harold and Dixie's daughters Lisa Anderson and her husband Mark, and Sandy Smith and her husband Earl; and Bonnie Applebee and her husband John and their 3 sons: Jonathan Applebee and his partner Shawn, Timothy Applebee and his wife Jessica Cuni, and Zachary Applebee. Lisa, Sandy, Jonathan, Tim and Zac were also Jack and Char Lee's much loved children with whom they spent many happy times together. After working in their respective careers, Jack and Char Lee spent many years traveling from Maine to Georgia in their RV doing antique shows. Char Lee, Jack, Louie and Shirley enjoyed (lived and breathed) UCONN Women's Basketball games. Jack and Char Lee attended services weekly at the Christian Science Church in Willimantic for over 40 years. His family will receive relatives and friends from 10:00 am to 11:00am on Thursday, February 17 at Potter Funeral Home, 456 Jackson St, Willimantic with his funeral service following at 11:00am. A private burial will be held. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to your favorite charity or to Windham Area Interfaith Ministry, 866 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226. For an online memorial guestbook, please visit www.potterfuneral-home.com.

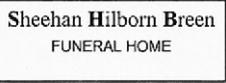
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Staib, Isabel (DelGaudio)



Isabel (DelGaudio) Staib, 97, longtime resident of West Hartford, passed peacefully on Friday, February 11, 2022. She was the beloved wife of Arthur E. Staib for 67 years, until his passing in 2017. Isabel was born in Hartford to the late Pasquale and Theresa (Cappiello) DelGaudio. She was the youngest daughter and the last surviving member of 12 children.

She leaves several nieces and her dear friend, Lynne Gallinoto, who was like a daughter to her. There will be no calling hours. A Graveside Service will be held at 10 am on Wednesday, February 16, 2022, at Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. Sheehan-Hilborn-Breen Funeral Home, West Hartford, has charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com



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White, Patricia



Patricia Ann (Mascola) White, 85, of Westerly, RI, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her family on Sunday January 30, 2022. She was the wife of the late Edward F. White. Born in Hartford, Ct., she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Melanie (DiBiasi) Mascola.

Pat worked for many years for Manchester State Bank, Manchester, CT. She made many lifelong friends at the bank. After retirement, Pat moved to their vacation home in Westerly, RI., which became a gathering place for family. She welcomed family and friends with open arms and lots of food. She was very close to her grandchildren and made their time spent at the beach very special. Pat loved gardening and we all envied her green thumb. She was an avid fan of UCONN Huskies basketball and Yankee baseball and enjoyed watching NFL football, especially Patrick Mahomes.

Pat leaves her children, Cheryl Woods and her children, Jeff and Jami, Ed White and his wife Kim, their children Eddy, Kacey & Sara, Danny White, Beth Sadloski and her husband Eddy, their children, Jed, Zak & Drew. Also 5 great grandchildren, Justice, EJ, Jaxon, Bohdi and Huxley, sisters Marie Corso and Linda Gonthier, many nieces and nephews. Pat had a special place in her heart for all of her caring neighbors. She was preceded in death by her sister Melanie Moore and brothers in-law William Corso, Joseph Gonthier and Bill Moore. Also predeceased by her sister in-law Judy Clark and her husband Ray.

The family will celebrate Pat's life this spring, date tbd. Please consider a donation in her name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. For online condolences, please visit www.buckler-johnston.com

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Armstrong, Doris M.



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved aunt, Doris Armstrong. She was born in Georgetown, Ontario, Canada, younger sister to Bill—a lifelong supporter and proud older brother of Doris's many accomplishments. Doris's call to nursing was influenced by her great aunt, a nurse and uncle—a physician who made house calls and removed Doris's and her brother's tonsils on their kitchen table. She trained as an operating room nurse at Brantford General Hospital School of Nursing, the same school her aunt attended. In 1949, she earned a Scholarship to the University of Toronto and later, two degrees from Johns Hopkins University—a reflection of her belief in continuing education and lifelong learning. Doris began her professional career as a staff nurse in the operating room at Johns Hopkins Hospital and went on to become director of Operative and Acute Care Services and then Director of the Hospital's entire nursing service until 1976.

From there, Doris went to Hartford Hospital to become Vice President of Nursing where she spent 15 years advancing patient-centered initiatives that promoted improved services through measurable standards of care, collaborative practices with physicians and other staff and advanced nurse practitioner programs. Throughout her career Doris distinguished herself both nationally and internationally as a healthcare professional. Upon Doris's retirement in 1991, John J. Meehan, then president and chief executive officer of Hartford Hospital described her accomplishments and contribution to the hospital as well as the nursing profession overall, as having "...made a mark that will remain in place for a long time to come, consistently distinguishing herself as the consummate nurse, administrator and overall professional."

Of course, to us she was simply Doris, our dad's vibrant and always fun sister who visited often and who became such an important part of our family. As we grew older, we came to understand and appreciate the breadth of Doris's accomplishments. What makes her memory so special to us and to anyone who knew her were the personal bonds she established, through her kindness, her support and her capacity to mentor. Doris's extraordinary empathy and the respect and kindness that she showed everyone she dealt with throughout her life, remained a part of her to the end. We will cherish that along with the many wonderful memories of the life she shared with us.

Doris is predeceased by her parents, her brother Bill and many incredibly special friends. She is survived by her four adoring nieces and nephews, their partners, children and grandchildren and many incredibly special friends! In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Hartford Hospital Nursing and Education, via <https://giving.hartfordhospital.org/donate> or to the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing via <https://secure.jhu.edu/form/nursing>. To leave an online message of condolence for her family, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Caron, Gilbert J.



Gilbert J. Caron, 61, beloved husband of Linda (Budaj) Caron of East Hartford passed away on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at St. Francis Hospital surrounded by his family. Born in Hartford on July 1, 1960, he grew up in South Windsor and was a current resident of East Hartford. Besides his wife, Gil leaves a son Michael and his wife Brittany and his expectant granddaughter, Mackenzie, to be born in June. He also leaves, his brother Michael Caron and his wife Joyce, his sister Susan Whalen and her husband Timothy, his brother Ronald Caron and his wife Dena, his sister-in-law Christine Menard in Florida, his brother-in-law Michael Budaj and sister-in-law Maryann Sibley and her husband Gerald in Florida and many nieces and nephews. Gil was predeceased by his son Mark Caron, his parents Alberie and Germaine Caron, his in-laws John and Ann Budaj and nephews Jason Whalen and Jeffrey Bonini. Gil retired from the Connecticut Department of Corrections after 20 years of service. After retiring from Corrections, he drove tractor-trailers for several years doing what he loved. He enjoyed watching Nascar, the New York Yankees, going to truck and car shows and keeping his vehicles in immaculate condition. Calling hours are Wednesday, February 16th from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home, 419 Buckland Road, South Windsor. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Thursday, February 17th at 11 a.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Church, 673 Ellington Road, South Windsor. Burial will follow at Wapping Cemetery in South Windsor. Attendees are asked to please go directly to the church. Memorial donations may be made to the American Lung Association, 45 Ash Street, East Hartford, CT 06108. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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Sakmar, Charles M.



Charles M. (Chuck) Sakmar, 83, of Ivoryton passed away on Friday, February 11, 2022. He was the beloved father of Tammy Mesite, and the late Brenda Lee Sakmar, and the beloved husband of the late Pauline (Lombardi) Sakmar. Funeral services will privately held by the family. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to Friends of The Forest Incorporated, 13 Pratt Street, Essex, CT 06426 or to the Terry Brodeur Breast Cancer Foundation, 187 Williams Street, New London, CT 06320. To share a memory of Chuck, leave a condolence for his family, and view his full obituary please visit www.rwwfh.com Arrangements are in the care of the Robinson, Wright & Weymer Funeral Home in Centerbrook.

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IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory Of JAY MICHAEL ROMANO



02/15/1986 - 12/16/2012
Happy Birthday, Jay!

Our love for you grows with each passing year,
and our tears still flow...we miss you so
The Romano Family

Hartford Courant

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High-speed internet could spark economy

Business corridor in Hartford's Northeast neighborhood prepares for broadband boost, reliability

By Kenneth R. Gosselin
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — High-speed fiber internet lines — a critical building block for economic growth — is coming to a major business corridor in Hartford's Northeast neighborhood where business owners have long complained about spotty or even nonexistent broadband access.

The city plans to partner with a utility on the project that will run a little over a mile from 2730 to 3054 Main St. and 555 to 847 Windsor St. Bids are now being sought, with the city matching up to \$750,000, roughly half the project's cost. Construction could

start in the spring.

Stepped up internet speed can't come fast enough for Mark Brown, the owner of Dunn's River Jamaican Restaurant at 2996 Main St.

With the volume of credit and debit card transactions increasing since Brown opened his restaurant in 2008, he saw a slowdown in processing times.

"We've been going through all the struggle with the internet system," Brown said. "It's so bad that I have to go and get a hotspot just to help with my internet here."

Brown said he needed seek the help of a hotspot to speed up internet service because he's only getting about a quarter of the access

he's paying for.

More reliable, high-speed broadband would open up new opportunities for Brown, including the possibility of doubling the number of his processing terminals and expanding online ordering capabilities.

"This is going to be a blessing from the sky," Brown said.

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin said the lack of high-speed broadband access is a barrier to businesses that want to be competitive and grow.

"This investment will support growth along a vital corridor in the Northeast neighborhood that has, for far too long, been held back by inadequate infrastructure

and limited access to high-speed internet," Bronin said.

The Hartford City Council has given its support to the project, the council's majority leader TJ Clarke II noting that the upgrade has been past due for a decade.

"Having access to information anywhere, anytime is a requirement to operate in any business environment," Councilwoman Shirley Surgeon said.

The city said the project calls for the conduit carrying the fiber optic lines to be owned by the city with shared use by the utility.

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@courant.com.



Multiple contractors and members of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection work to remove contaminated soil after a home heating oil truck crashed Friday and spilled about 2,000 gallons of oil along Bethany Mountain Road in Cheshire. The road is expected to remain closed until midweek. STAN GODLEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

2nd whale dies at Mystic Aquarium

Facility had brought in 5 from Canada for research

Associated Press

MYSTIC — The second of five whales brought from Canada to Connecticut's Mystic Aquarium last year for research purposes has died.

The aquarium announced on its website that the female had been receiving intensive care for the past several months for multiple health issues but died early Friday morning. A necropsy was to be performed to determine the cause of death.

"Veterinarians and animal care experts at Mystic Aquarium, with the support of veterinarians and animal husbandry members from other aquariums worldwide, devoted the full capacity of their expertise to the whale, providing round-the-clock medical treatment, testing, and 24-hour monitoring," the aquarium said in a statement.

A male beluga named Havok, who had a preexisting gastrointestinal issue, died in August. The two whales were among five brought to Mystic last spring from Marineland in Niagara Falls, Ontario, after a lengthy battle to obtain permits from both the United States and Canada.

Animal rights activists had sued unsuccessfully to block the transport, alleging a permit granted by the U.S. Commerce secretary and National Marine Fisheries Service didn't adequately address the potential harm to the belugas from being moved to Mystic.

The whales, which ranged in age from 7 to 12 at the time of the transport, were born in captivity, and officials say they cannot safely be released into the ocean. Mystic officials said at the time that the five whales left an overcrowded habitat with about 50 other Belugas in Canada.

The Animal Welfare Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based animal protection advocacy organization, called for an investigation into the deaths in a statement on its website.

Turn to Whale, Page 2

Vacant corner in Newington eyed for 152 apartments

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

A Florida-based firm is proposing to construct 152 apartments in Newington at a vacant corner lot. The company wants to build twin four-story buildings at Pane and Maselli roads, just two blocks from the Berlin Turnpike.

The project would be called The Pike, and the developers, Smith & Henzy Advisory, estimate it will cost \$39 million.

Based in Boca Raton, Smith & Henzy advertises that it has built or redeveloped 4,000 apartments in New York and Florida.

Ten percent of the Newington apartments would be priced for affordable/workforce rental rates, the company told town officials in its application. Residents will get to hear more details and offer input when the proposal goes to a planning and zoning hearing later this month.

As with other developers who are fueling a tremendous wave of apartment construction across central Connecticut, Smith & Henzy contends there are plenty of tenants eager for modern housing.

"Market studies for the project show a high demand for the development. The current vacancy rate in Newington is 1.5

Road remains closed as crews clean up oil spill

DEEP says 2,000 gallons of heating oil spilled in truck rollover

"At this time there is no expected impact to public drinking water supplies, though the Regional Water Authority continues to monitor the situation."

— Will Healey, DEEP director of communications

Courant staff report

Route 42 in Cheshire remained closed Monday as clean-up and excavation work to determine the extent of soil contamination was ongoing following the rollover of a home heating oil truck that split open and released about 2,000 gallons of oil, according to the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

According to DEEP, the fuel released into a storm drain Friday and the Cheshire Fire Department contained the oil from advancing further until DEEP emergency personnel and Environmental Services, Inc. arrived on scene. Booms were put into place.

Will Healey, DEEP director of communications, said that, as of late Monday, 60 roll off boxes — each containing 15 tons of contaminated soil — have been removed from the spill site..

"Excavation and delineation work, and

monitoring and sampling work, continues," he said. "The team working on-site continue to remain confident that the spilled oil is contained."

As of now, the road will remain closed through at least this coming weekend, Healey said.

"Last night, work was finished on a trench from the crash site 378 (feet) south to a culvert," Healey said in a statement Saturday. "On the south side of the culvert outfall are two excavated areas approximately (10 feet by 20 feet and 20 feet by 20 feet) at a depth of 10 (feet) and 15 (feet) with monitoring wells."

Healey also said subsurface probing is being done 100 feet south of the monitoring wells, in "a semi-circle to confirm product didn't get past the containment area."

The road was cut back 6 feet from the trench, "and the plan is to go in 6-(foot)

Turn to Oil, Page 2

Manchester could get distribution facility

'Super hot' industrial market, town planning director says

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

MANCHESTER — In 2019, Manchester planning and economic development director Gary Anderson referred to "a pretty hot industrial market now in the region and certainly in Manchester."

"Any space that's available, we're seeing interest in development or expansion," Anderson said at the time.

The market is "still super hot," Anderson said Monday in response to questions about a proposed commercial distribution build-



A Massachusetts developer is proposing to build a warehouse and two manufacturing centers at Rentschler Field. The area has become a target for warhouse-based businesses.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ing on Parker Street.

"We are seeing lots of demand for distribution centers — transportation/warehousing," he said. "This is one of those and we recently approved another that's very similar. I'm hearing they are building these on spec (without a signed tenant) because they are so confident in the market."

1055 Crossroads LLC is seeking approval from the planning and zoning commission to build a 42,785-square-foot commercial distribution building on a vacant 4-acre lot at 700 Parker St. The company hawks the property on its website as close to I-84 with

surplus parking available to lease.

After a revaluation last year, industrial real estate values in Manchester increased 13.46%. The town already is home to the 2 million-square-foot Winstanley Logistics Center, where tenants include Amazon and Stop & Shop parent Ahold Delhaize. In neighboring East Hartford, a Massachusetts developer is proposing to build a warehouse and two manufacturing centers at Rentschler Field.

In landing warehouse-based businesses,

Turn to Distribution, Page 2

CONNECTICUT

Massachusetts man allegedly injured officers in Newington bar fracas

Courant staff report

A Massachusetts man who allegedly kicked and injured “multiple” police officers during a fracas at a Newington bar Sunday was arrested, police said. Luis O. Santos, of Springfield, is charged with interfering with officers; two counts of assault on a public safety officer, second-degree breach of peace and second-degree threatening, police

said. The incident occurred at The Bar and Grill at 512 Cedar St., after the department received a report that a man was threatening customers and claimed to have a gun, police said. Officer found Santos, who was allegedly “engaged in a physical altercation with customers who were attempting to restrain him,” police said in a statement. “Officers intervened

and Santos ignored officers’ commands and kicked officers resulting in injuries to multiple officers.” Police said Santos allegedly “resisted and kicked officers resulting in injuries to multiple officers.” Santos did not have a firearm during the incident, police said. Santos was held in lieu of \$75,000 bail and was due in Superior Court in New Britain on Monday, police said.

THEATER REVIEW



Jeena Yi in Susan Soon He Stanton’s “Today is My Birthday” at the Yale Repertory Theatre through Saturday. ADAM TOLBERT

‘Today is My Birthday’ a fond return to the Yale Rep

By Christopher Arnott
Hartford Courant

“Today is My Birthday” is a relation play where relationships just fall apart, where one character demands of another, “Aren’t you negating the transformative power of your own medium?” It’s a distanced, dispassionate musing on closeness and passion. And it makes total sense to be seeing it now. The Yale Repertory Theatre is the last of Connecticut’s major regional theaters to reopen after the COVID-19 shutdown (and its various variant aftereffects). The unromantic romantic comedy “Today is My Birthday” is the first show the Rep has staged since its revival of “A Raisin in the Sun” was shut down by COVID-19 concerns nearly two years ago, days before it was set to open. This opening was fraught as well. Two weeks ago the Rep announced that due to omicron, “Today is My Birthday” could only be seen by current Yale faculty and staff — no guests, no family, no critics — and that non-Yalies could see a pre-recorded virtual version late in the run. Happily, a week after the show opened to Yalies only, the rules were changed and as of Friday the doors have been opened for the rest of us. Ironically, the play is about not being able to do things the way you’d most like to do them. It’s about compromises, and worries that past problems may recur. It’s about having trouble communicating when everyone you know is stuck in a house or an office or a studio or in a different country, when you don’t know if you have steady work or if your friends and family are there for you. Susan Soon He Stanton wrote “Today is My Birthday” long before COVID-19 happened. The play premiered in New York City in 2017. It’s about a young writer named Emily who’d left her native Hawaii to find work in New York, didn’t find much, and has returned home. Her attempts to connect with family, new friends and

potential boyfriends are confounded by technology and distractions. To track down someone she’s attracted to, she surreptitiously asks him out on a date while they are both improvising characters for a dating segment on a crass morning radio show. While “Today is My Birthday” is a rather lightweight effort for the Rep, it’s a good fit for these times. The six actors, who play over two dozen characters among them, may share a stage but never touch. The closest any of them get is sitting next two each other in movie seats. Otherwise they’re usually several feet away. The physical distance suits a script where nearly all the conversations are conducted over phones, radio microphones and apartment building intercoms. Even Emily dream job seems impersonal: she wants to start an online magazine. Director Mina Morita could do more to bring out this literal communications gap. On a broad open stage there’s no real sense of isolation. The scenes change rapidly as Emily finds work, loses work, finds hope, loses hope, reconnects, is disconnected. If there’s a center to all this, the playwright and director aren’t keen to let you know where it is. “Today is My Birthday” has a roundabout way of getting to its points — literally roundabout, since scenic designer Bridget Lindsay has incorporated a turntable stage into the set that has no practical purpose other than to illustrate how Emily’s life is spinning out of control. Jeena Yi (who starred in TheaterWorks Hartford’s wondrous “Walden” last year, and was unforgettable in Yale Rep’s “Girls” in 2019) is the only cast member who plays just one role for the entire play. As Emily, she must navigate an endless amount of unpredictable situation, yet she’s somehow able to construct a deep, emotional character whom you want to see succeed. The supporting ensemble includes Yi’s “Walden” co-star Gabriel Brown (as various friends, boyfriends and

bosses), the esteemed New York actor Francis Jue (as Emily’s laid-back father, as well as a 104-year ukulele player), comedy sketch performer Atra Asdou (the best at switching swiftly from one crazy role to the next), Emily Kuroda (a veteran of “Today is My Birthday”’s world premiere production, as Emily’s imperious mother among others), and Chivas Michael of New Orleans’ No Dream Deferred NOLA theater company providing most of the funniest scenes as some of the most outlandish encounters Emily has. Some of the scenes are fun and breezy, some are dark and sad. There’s plenty to keep you guessing, but as you can imagine, a script about things seldom working out as planned might have some trouble tying up loose ends. “Today is My Birthday” has its problems, but it’s a fine example of what the Yale Rep does well and why that theater has been missed so much. At a Rep show, there is always an impressive design to catch your attention when the script may fail to. There’s usually cutting edge sound and lighting, and staging ideas that other theaters wouldn’t think of. In this one, you’ll find yourself mesmerized not just by the turntable stage but by three ceiling fans, far above the action. There are lots of elements to surprise as guide you when Stanton’s plotting gets purposefully random, when you wonder how “Today is My Birthday” will turn out for the world-weary Emily. This is the kind of show it’s worth going to see so you can share disorienting experiences we’ve all felt in the last couple of years. It’s a suitable homecoming to the Yale Repertory Theatre.

“Today is My Birthday” runs through Feb. 19 at the Yale Repertory Theatre, 1120 Chapel St., New Haven. Performances are Tuesday through Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10-\$65. yalerep.org. Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

Apartments

from Page 1

percent, and Hartford County has a 3 percent vacancy (rate),” according to the project description from BSC Group, a consultant. Uncommon for such a large corner lot near a commercial area, the 5-acre site for The Pike is undeveloped. When White Birch Crossing LLC marketed the land several years ago, an online description read: “Virgin soil. Never built on. No wetlands. Doesn’t about any residential land.” The property is part of Newington’s PD Planned Development zone, which allows retail, housing, commercial space and offices. But Smith & Henzy will need a special permit to proceed. The company’s proposal goes to a hearing Feb. 23 at 7 p.m.; interested residents can get information on how to attend online through the municipal webpage calendar at tinyurl.com/3ja2ab56. Smith & Henzy wants to build 64 one-bedroom apartments and 88 two-bedroom units. They’d be equally divided between the twin buildings. The company intends to price leases at market rate, but would set aside 10% for tenants with incomes

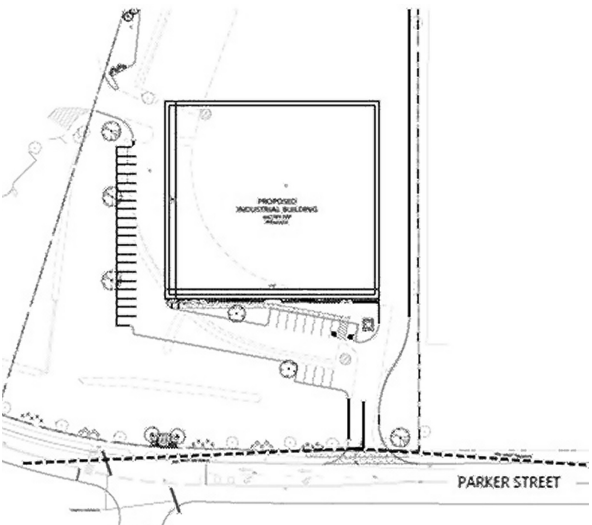
no more than 80 percent of the regional median. The development plan includes a fitness room, community room and outdoor recreation area. It says apartments would have 9-foot-high ceilings, open floor plans, breakfast bars and large windows. Elevators would serve each building. The parking lot would have 240 spaces, including four with electric charging stations and four others designed for future upgrade. BSC Group told the town that the location — 15 minutes from Hartford and a short distance from Sam’s Club, Stew Leonard’s and other major retailers — would be a draw. Best Buy, Lowe’s, P.C. Richard and numerous restaurants are also within a few blocks. “Data shows that the project will be supported by younger professionals, empty-nesters, seniors aged 62 plus, and moderate-income households for the workforce apartments,” BSC said in a report. “Over the last 12 months rents have increased 5 to 7 percent in the market area.” Within the past year, developers have proposed or started complexes with more than 100 apartments in Bristol, Southington, New Britain, West Hartford, Farmington, Avon, Windsor and elsewhere.

Oil

from Page 1

sections depending upon findings,” he said. Healey said Sunday that the DOT would give “instructions for back-fill requirements and compaction rates for the roadway area. The action plan in place has worked well, limiting the amount of roadway that has needed to be disturbed.” Healey had said Friday that the area of the spill is a public water supply watershed area, and that there are public water supply service areas and private wells in the area. “Local health department, State Department of Public Health, and Regional Water Authority officials are assessing the situation, and additional information to those living in the immediate area will be communicated as needed,” he said Friday in an email. “At this time there is no expected impact to public drinking water supplies, though the Regional Water Authority continues to monitor the situa-

tion,” he said Friday night. “The Chesprocott Health District has been involved on scene throughout the day and has left messages with nearby homeowners who are served by private wells to assist them. At this time, it does not appear as though those homeowners will be impacted as most of the spill is downgrade from the handful of homes close to the location.” The state Department of Public Health has been in constant contact with Chesprocott Health District, the Regional Water Authority, and the DEEP Emergency Response Unit, and all were monitoring the situation, Healey said. “Three monitoring wells have been established downgrade from the outfall culvert and the previously established wells, and so far remain clear of fuel,” Healey said Sunday. “Staff remain confident the team working on site successfully got out in front of the subsurface spread.” Healey the “responsible party has taken responsibility for the cleanup expenses.”



Site plan for a proposed commercial distribution center in Manchester. 1055 CROSSROADS LLC

Distribution

from Page 1

Connecticut has been capitalizing on access to the populous Northeast — within 500 miles of 30% of the U.S. population, state economic development officials have said. The state also is benefiting from Interstate 84, 91 and 95 and flat land available for huge warehouses. Amazon, in particular, has been building a massive presence in the state, including a \$200 million facility in Windsor. In January, Naugatuck and Waterbury officials announced that a 150-acre industrial park straddling the town line could draw Amazon, adding to the state’s growing network of hubs that are key to online shopping and next-day delivery. Across the nation, miti-

gation of rising transportation costs will continue to drive industrial demand for the foreseeable future, leading to continued rental rate growth, strong leasing volume and low vacancies, according to real estate broker CBRE. The Silverman Group, based in Basking Ridge, New Jersey, is the real estate developer behind the pending Manchester application. In 2019, the company purchased 700 Parker St., along with several other industrial properties in town for about \$13 million. The company portfolio — silvermangroup.net/ portfolio — shows the wide extent of its holdings in Manchester. A company representative could not be reached. Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.

Whale

from Page 1

In the aquarium’s statement, Dr. Stephen Coan, the aquarium’s president and CEO, said Mystic has addressed issues raised during a visit last fall by the U.S. Department of Agriculture after the first whale died. Those included the handling of animals with vision challenges, certain fluctuations in water quality and shade for animals. “Inspections, investigations when an animal dies, and accreditation processes are essential learning tools to advance the care and welfare of animals,” Coan said. “We are constantly seeking to evolve and learn in our mission to provide the best possible care for animals.”



A beluga whale is lowered into a transport cart May 14 after arriving at Mystic Aquarium. The whale was among five imported to Mystic Aquarium from Canada for research on the endangered mammals. JASON DECROW/AP

CONNECTICUT

Listeria danger forces Manchester ice cream recall

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

The Royal Ice Cream Co. of Manchester has expanded a recall to include all products due to the danger of illness from listeria monocytogenes, according to the federal Food & Drug Administration.

The organism can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiff-

ness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, listeria infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

There have been no illnesses reported to date, according to an FDA notice on Saturday.

All affected products have the manufacturing plant number “CT121” or “CT#121.” Brands include all Batch pints; Royal Ice Cream brand half-gallons, pints, cakes, all specialties; Ronny Brook Ice cream, all flavor pints and three-gallon tubs; New Orleans Ice cream, all flavor pints and 2.5-gallon tubs; Maple Valley Ice Cream, all flavor pints; Art

Cream, all pint flavors.

Also, Sweet Scoops Yogurt, all pint flavors; Gelato Fiasco, all pint flavors; Biggy Iggy’s Ice Cream Sandwiches; Munson Chip Wich Ice Cream sandwiches; Gifford’s Ice cream Sandwiches all flavors; Chewy Louie Ice Cream Sandwiches; Snow Wich Ice Cream Sandwich; and Newport Creamery, Crazy Vanilla, Vanilla & Chocolate, Vanilla & Coffee half-gallons.

The company initiated the recall after FDA sampling revealed the presence of listeria monocytogenes on processing equipment, the federal agency notice said. The

company is holding future product and testing before releasing distribution of the products as FDA and the company continue their investigation into what caused the problem, the notice said

Consumers who have purchased any of the effected products are urged to return them to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at 860-649-5358, Monday thru Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.

Drug dealer gets 4-year prison term

Feds say New Haven man distributed heroin, cocaine

Courant staff report

A Connecticut man was sentenced to almost four years in prison Monday in connection with distributing heroin, cocaine and crack, according to federal authorities.

James Lee, 24, of New Haven, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Kari A. Dooley in Bridgeport to a total of 46 months of imprisonment, to be followed by three years of supervised release in the drug-dealing case, according to federal authorities.

New Haven police encountered Lee at a gas station on March 13, 2021; he was sitting in a car that had been used to flee from police on March 8, federal authorities said in a statement, citing court documents and statements made in court. “A search of Lee’s person revealed \$3,815 and a search of the car revealed \$3,443,” the statement said. “Officers then found a hidden compartment in the vehicle’s center counsel that contained heroin, crack and cocaine packaged for distribution, and a loaded 9mm handgun.”

Then, on the morning of April 5, 2021, a New Haven police detective in an unmarked police cruiser identified another car that had fled from West Haven police during an attempted traffic stop several days before that and the detective followed the car and observed the vehicle’s occupants “engage in what appeared to be street-level drug transactions,” the statement said.

The detective followed the car to another location and Lee, who had been released on bond, and Darryl Russell, exited the car and entered a building, federal authorities said in the statement.

Lee was arrested after he exited the building; Russell ignored commands not to leave the scene but was apprehended a short distance away after he was found hiding in a trash can, federal authorities said in the statement. A search of their car “revealed heroin, crack and cocaine packaged for distribution, and more than \$2,000 in cash,” federal authorities said.

Lee has been detained since his arrest and on Sept. 28 he pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute heroin, cocaine and cocaine base, also know as crack, federal authorities said.

Russell, also of New Haven, has been detained since May 2021. He pleaded guilty in federal court on Sept. 14 to possession with intent to distribute, heroin, cocaine and cocaine base and now awaits sentencing, federal authorities said in the statement.

The case was investigated by the New Haven Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Nathaniel J. Gentile.



An armed robbery occurred just before 5 a.m. Monday at the Petro Max gas station at 136 Preston Road in Griswold. **POLICE PHOTO**

Robber hits gas station

Courant staff report

State police are seeking help to identify a man who allegedly robbed a Griswold gas station at gun point Monday.

The incident occurred just before 5 a.m. Monday at the Petro Max gas station located at 136 Preston Road in Griswold, police said.

Troopers from the Troop E-Montville Barracks were dispatched to the gas station and learned that a man dressed in a black sweatshirt, black mask, black gloves and tan pants entered the building armed with a handgun and demanded money from the clerk, state police said.

The man obtained a small amount of cash from the register and fled in a gold 4-door sedan, state police said. The suspect is described as a male who is about 5 feet 11 and weighs about 180 pounds.

Anyone with any information is asked contact Detective Jette at the Troop E Montville Barracks at 860-848-6566.



Many Connecticut cities are resuming their St. Patrick’s Day parades this year, after two years of no parades due to the coronavirus pandemic. **COURANT FILE PHOTO**

St. Patrick’s parades return across state

Events seen as ‘a symbol of hope, strength and community’

By Susan Dunne | Hartford Courant

St. Patrick’s Day parades were the first cancellations of the coronavirus pandemic, called off just as the lockdown began in 2020. Most were canceled again in 2021, as the delta variant began its surge. This year is a big comeback for the state’s St. Patrick’s Day parades.

Events are planned in Norwich, Hartford, Norwalk, New London, New Haven, Bridgeport, Essex, Greenwich and Mystic.

Eileen Moore, chairwoman of the Greater Hartford St. Patrick’s Day Parade, said traditionally the parade “is often the first day people are getting out and gathering outside after a cold, bleak, snowy winter, a sign that spring and newness was on the horizon.”

Moore said this year that symbolism is even more important.

“It points to a new level of brightness. We are two years into this COVID cycle. Two years ago, nobody knew was happening. Last spring, vaccines were happening. We all felt the end of COVID was in sight. We’ve had setbacks with the variants, but even with these, now people are thinking that if you are vaccinated and boosted, getting it isn’t as terrible as initially it was, god bless us all,” she said.

Bernadette Smyth LaFrance, executive chairman of the board of directors of the Greater New Haven St. Patrick’s Day Parade Committee, said the parade is a symbol “of hope, strength and community.

“After past two years of this pandemic, moreso than ever this parade has greater meaning. We have suffered great losses but as a community we came together,” Smyth LaFrance said. “We gave each other hope and strength and faith in the power of community.”

Here’s a lineup of this year’s parades. Check the websites for COVID protocols and road closures.

Norwich

The Downtown Norwich St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Festival will be March 6, stepping off at 1 p.m. It will end at 2 p.m. with live music offered at downtown venues.

The grand marshal is Angela Adams. The event is presented by the Downtown Norwich Historic District. facebook.com/GoNorwichCT.

Hartford

The 50th annual Greater Hartford St. Patrick’s Day Parade, presented by the Central Connecticut Celtic Cultural Committee, will be held, rain or shine, on March 12 at 11 a.m., it has been announced on the parade’s website.

The parade has representatives from Cromwell, East Hartford, Glastonbury, Hartford, Newington, South Windsor, West Hartford and Wethersfield. The grand marshal is Liz Saunders, the general chairwoman of the committee.

The parade begins at Capitol Avenue by the State Capitol, takes a left on Main Street, then a left on Asylum Street, then a left on Ford Street, and ends by the Memorial Arch.

The parade will be broadcast live on CW 20 beginning at 11:30 a.m. irishamericanparade.com.

Norwalk

The Norwalk Police Emerald Society announced in a news release that the 2022 Norwalk St. Patrick’s Day Parade will be held March 12 at 11 a.m.

The parade begins at Veteran’s Park, proceeds up Washington Street onto North Main Street and ends at Pine Street.

A ceremony, under the tent at O’Neill’s Pub at 93 North Main St., will follow the parade. facebook.com/NorwalkPoliceEmeraldSociety.

New London

The Downtown New London Association announced on its website that the New London St. Patrick’s Day Parade will be March 13 from 1 to 2 p.m. downtownnewlondonassociation.com.

New Haven

The Greater New Haven St. Patrick’s Day Parade Committee has announced on Monday that the 2022 parade will take place on March 13 at 1:30 p.m.

The parade route begins at Derby and Chapel streets, down Chapel, making a left onto Church Street and ending at Elm Street on the Green, where a fun zone will be set up for families. stpatricksdayparade.org.

Bridgeport

The Greater Bridgeport Saint Patrick’s Day Parade will take place on March 17 from noon to 1 p.m., it was announced on Facebook.

The procession will begin at Harbor Yard, continue up Broad Street to Fairfield Avenue and return to Harbor Yard via Main Street. facebook.com/St.PatricksParadeBridgeport.

Essex

Essex Go Bragh, the annual Irish parade in Essex, will be March 19 at 10 a.m., stepping off at Essex Town Hall, it was announced on Facebook.

The grand marshal is Bob Russo, who also was appointed grand marshal at the canceled 2020 and 2021 parades. facebook.com/essexctgobragh.

Greenwich

The Greenwich Hibernian Association will present its 46th annual parade on March 20 at 2 p.m.

The route starts at Greenwich Town Hall, 101 Field Point Road, heads up Field Point Road, takes a right at Greenwich Library onto Putnam Avenue, then takes a right on Greenwich Avenue, ending at Railroad Avenue. greenwichhibernians.org/parade.

Mystic

The 17th annual Mystic Irish Parade will be March 27 from 1 to 3 p.m., it was announced on its website.

The grand marshal is Alexis Ann, editor and publisher of The Resident.

The route begins at the south parking lot of Mystic Seaport, makes a left onto Greenmanville Road, a right onto Willow Street, a left onto Broadway, a right onto East Main Street, across the bridge, left on Water Street, and ends at the Groton Police sub station near Mystic Museum of Art. mysticirishparade.org.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Have You Been Injured?



Call Attorney John H. Hagel, Jr. today at 860-225-3518



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www.lawsilver.com john@lawsilver.com



Car Reviews

SATURDAYS IN Motoring



PUBLIC NOTICES

**Legal Notice
City of Bristol**

Request for Proposal 2022-2023
Notice is hereby given that the City of Bristol is accepting sealed responses on the following for:
2022-065 School Readiness Grant Program; submissions due by March 10, 2022
Request for Proposals are available beginning February 15, 2022
Proposal documentation can be obtained on website <http://www.ci.bristol.ct.us>
Contact person: Mary-Alice Petrucelli-Timek, Grant Manager 860.584.7812 ext 451248 or e-mail at maryalicepetrucelli@bristolct.gov
2/15/2022 7149311

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Thomas Sears Hannon, Late of CLINTON (22-0069)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated February 11, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Helene Yates, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Elisabeth I Hannon
c/o JOHN DUNLOP WATTS, JOHN D WATTS,
781 BOSTON POST ROAD, P.O. BOX 502,
MADISON, CT 06443

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF KILLINGWORTH
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

The Electors of the Town of Killingworth and all those qualified to vote in meetings of said Town are hereby notified and warned that a Special Town Meeting will be held in the All Purpose Room of the Killingworth Elementary School on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon the following items of business:

1. To accept a proposal to join the Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD). The complete text of the proposal is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.
2. To approve an ordinance which would allow the Board of Selectmen to appoint additional members to the Board of Assessment Appeals. The complete text of the proposed ordinance is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.
3. To confirm the Selectmen's appointment of William Raymond Burley and Brian James Blair as Killingworth representatives to the Hadam-Killingworth Recreation Authority, for a term to commence upon confirmation and to continue until June 30, 2022.
4. To confirm the Selectmen's appointment of Jamie Mowat Young to the Representative Policy Board, South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority for a term ending June 30, 2023.

Dated at Killingworth, Connecticut this 2nd day of February, 2022.

Nancy Gorski, First Selectman
Louis C. Annino, Jr., Selectman
Jamie Mowat Young, Selectman
2/15/2022 7143645

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Rosalie M. McDonald-Padelli (22-00031)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated February 10, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Nicole McDonald
c/o HALLEY CONNOLLY ALLAIRE, ALLAIRE ELDER LAW, LLC, 271 FARMINGTON AVE, BRISTOL, CT 06010
2/15/22 7148616

**Legal Notice
City of Bristol**

Request for Proposal 2022-2023
Notice is hereby given that the City of Bristol is accepting sealed responses on the following for:
2022-066 Quality Enhancement Grant; submissions due by April 1, 2022
Proposed Activities specified on Grant application
Request for Proposals are available beginning February 15, 2022
Proposal documentation can be obtained on website <http://www.ci.bristol.ct.us>
Contact person: Mary-Alice Petrucelli-Timek, Grant Manager 860.584.7812 ext 451248 or e-mail at maryalicepetrucelli@bristolct.gov
2/15/2022 7149338

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Donald A. Klepacki (22-00079)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated February 1, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Laurel G. Klepacki
c/o ROBERT K KILLIAN, KILLIAN & DONOHUE, LLC, 363 MAIN STREET, HARTFORD, CT 06106

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Thaddeus J. Rosinski (22-00070)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated January 28, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Jon D. Rosinski
c/o JON CHRISTOPHER LEARY, LAW OFFICES OF JON C. LEARY & ASSOC, LLC, 675 BERLIN TURNPIKE, 2ND FLOOR, BERLIN, CT 06037

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Farmington Storage, 155 Swamp Scott Road, Farmington, CT 06032 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. This sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on February 23, 2022 at 11:00am. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings.

Samuel Guerra, last known address 500 Bluff View Drive, Guilford, CT 06437 in Unit F11
Jesus Matos, last known address 826 Pine Street, Apt 5, Bristol, CT 06010 in Unit C116
This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply.
2/8, 2/15/2022 7143444

NOTICE

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:
132 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-916-0534
Auction Date- Feb 22, 2022 1:00 PM
55 James Ryan Housegoods
618 Kyle Montgomery Housegoods
576 Rondell Copeland Housegoods
436 Deborah Walsh Housegoods
683 Dasia Artis Housegoods
376 Justin Walicki Housegoods
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
2/8, 2/15/2022 7141093

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:
50 Olesen Rd
Wethersfield CT 06109
860-266-3184
Auction Date- Feb 22, 2022 1:00 PM
4424 Aida Vanessa Maldonado House goods
4414A Ernest Hamrick House goods
8156 Jeremy Ramos House goods
3009 Erica Sellars-Moore House goods
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
2/8, 2/15/2022 7132976



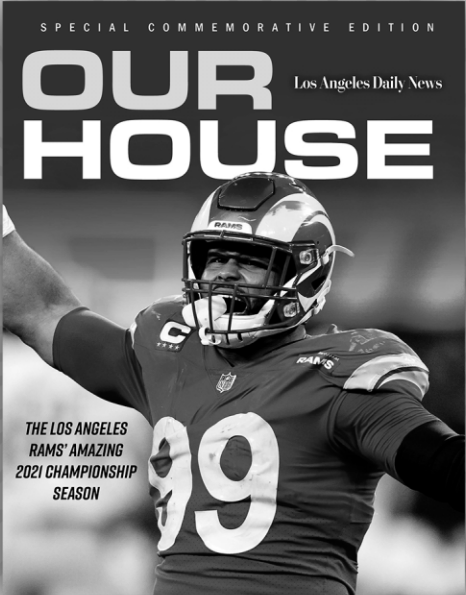
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94TH ACADEMY AWARDS

Your guide to watching Oscar-nominated films

By Leanne Italie
Associated Press

Looking to watch the top Oscar nominees before the 94th Academy Awards air on March 27? There are many ways to get that done, including a trip to a theater in some cases. Here's a few other ways, though it's worth looking around as many have myriad paths to digitally buy, rent and stream.

On Netflix
■ “The Power of the Dog” — The leading nominee with a dozen Oscar nods, including those for Kirsten Dunst, Benedict Cumberbatch, Jesse Plemons and Kodi Smit-McPhee. It also received a best picture nod and a best director nomination for Jane Campion.
■ “Don’t Look Up” — Adam McKay’s apocalyptic comedy nabbed four Oscar nominations, including best picture, original score and original screenplay. The climate change satire stars Leonardo DiCaprio and Jennifer Lawrence.
■ “tick, tick ... BOOM!” — Andrew Garfield earned an Oscar nomination for his portrayal of Jonathan Larson, who upended the theater world as the creator of “Rent.”
■ “The Lost Daughter” — Starring Olivia Colman, Jessie Buckley and Dakota Johnson, this adaptation of an Elena Ferrante novel of the same name received three Oscar nominations, including nods for Colman and Buckley.
■ “The Mitchells vs. the Machines” — The oddball Mitchell family must quell an uprising by the world’s electronic devices while on a road trip. The best animated feature nominee is directed by Mike Rianda. Also available at a cost on Apple TV+, Disney+, Vudu, Redbox and more.

On HBO Max
■ “Dune” — It’s no longer streaming on HBO Max but worth watching for its return. Meanwhile, digital rentals and purchases are plentiful, including



on Amazon Prime Video and through Apple TV+, iTunes and Google Play. The sweeping desert sci-fi saga based on Frank Herbert’s classic 1965 novel received 10 Oscar nominations, including best picture and cinematography.
■ “King Richard” — Directed by Reinaldo Marcus Green, the story of Richard Williams — father, coach and driving force behind tennis greats Venus and Serena Williams — has Will Smith in the leading role. The film earned six Oscar nominations, including one for Smith, Aunjanue Ellis, best picture and original song for “Be Alive” by Dixon and Beyonce Knowles-Carter. The film is no longer streaming for HBO Max subscribers but may someday come back. Available at a cost on Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, Google Play, Redbox, YouTube and more.
■ “Nightmare Alley” — This Guillermo del Toro remake of the 1947 neo-noir classic earned four Oscar nods, including best picture and cinematography. It’s also streaming for Hulu subscribers.
■ “The Eyes of Tammy Faye” — The rise-and-fall story of

televangelist power couple Tammy Faye and Jim Bakker secured Chastain her third Oscar nomination. The film received two nods, including makeup and hairstyling — notable for the brash Tammy.

On Hulu
■ “Spencer” — Kristen Stewart’s unhinged Princess Diana earned her a best actress Oscar nomination. Director Pablo Larrain takes a tragic surreal approach in this biopic.
■ “Flee” — With the exception of live-action archival footage, this grand jury prize winner at Sundance is entirely animated. It earned nods across three separate feature film categories: documentary, animated feature and international film.
■ “Summer of Soul (... Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)” — Thanks to Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson, the 1969 Harlem Cultural Festival has received its due, and an Oscar nomination for best documentary feature.

On Amazon Prime Video
■ “Belfast” — This

black-and-white film received seven Oscar nominations, including best picture, a directing nod for Kenneth Branagh, best supporting actress for Judi Dench and supporting actor for Ciaran Hinds. It’s no longer streaming for subscribers but may return. Available at a cost on Amazon Prime, Apple TV+, YouTube, Redbox, Vudu and more.
■ “Being the Ricardos” — This behind the scenes look at the work and marriage of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz received three acting nominations: Javier Bardem as Desi, Nicole Kidman as Lucy and J.K. Simmons in a supporting role.
■ “Coming 2 America” — This sequel to the Eddie Murphy hit earned one Oscar nomination, for hair and makeup.

On Apple TV+
■ “CODA” — Apple received its first best picture nomination with this drama, which also made history as supporting actor nominee Troy Kotsur became only the second deaf actor ever nominated. (His “CODA” co-star Marlee Matlin was the first.)

It was also nominated for best adapted screenplay.
■ “The Tragedy of Macbeth” — Joel Coen directed, with Denzel Washington starring as a gray-haired Macbeth. Washington’s turn at Shakespeare in this black-and-white version earned him a lead actor Oscar nod. The movie also received nominations for cinematography and production design.

On Disney+
■ “Encanto” — Lin-Manuel Miranda earned a nomination for original song (“Dos Oruguitas”), and this Disney movie’s other noms are for original score (Germaine Franco) and best animated feature film.
■ “Luca” — The Disney and Pixar coming-of-age story about a boy and his summer on the Italian Riviera is among the contenders for best animated feature.
■ “Raya and the Last Dragon” — Warrior Raya goes in search of a legendary last dragon in this film also competing for best animated feature.

In theaters
Among the Oscar nominees are some notables playing solely in theaters, for now.
■ “Licorice Pizza” — with three nominations for best picture, director (Paul Thomas Anderson) and original screenplay — is a charmingly loose love letter to the San Fernando Valley of Anderson’s youth.
■ “Drive My Car,” from Japanese director Ryusuke Hamaguchi, is a three-hour drama with four major Oscar nominations, including best picture, best director and best adapted screenplay. It was adapted from a Haruki Murakami short story.
■ Steven Spielberg’s re-imagining of “West Side Story” is still playing in theaters, but it will be available to Disney+ subscribers starting March 2. His version of the 1961 classic received seven Oscar nominations, including best picture and director for him. Ariana DeBose was nominated for her Anita.

CELEBRITIES

Goldberg returns after suspension

From news services

Whoopi Goldberg returned to “The View” on Monday after a two-week suspension for remarks about the Holocaust, expressing surprise at some people who had reached out to her during her absence. Goldberg had been criticized for comments Jan. 31 on the ABC daytime talk show where she said the Holocaust was not about race, but rather about man’s inhumanity to others. She apologized, but ABC News President Kim Godwin told her to sit out two weeks. “I want to thank everybody who reached out while I was away,” Goldberg said at the opening of Monday’s show. “I’m telling you, people reached out from places that made me go, ‘Wait, wait, what? Really? OK.’ I listened to what everybody was saying, and I was grateful.” She did not specify any of the people who reached out to her. Jewish leaders had criticized her initial statement, noting that Nazi leader Adolf Hitler had referred to Jews as an inferior race. Goldberg apologized online the night she made the remark, and on the next day’s show. “There is something kind of marvelous about being on a show like this because we are ‘The View,’ and this is what we do,” Goldberg said on Monday. “Sometimes we don’t do it as elegantly as we could. But it’s five minutes to get in information about topics, and that’s what we try to do everyday.” She said the hosts will continue to have tough conversations.

Noah to headline dinner: Trevor Noah, the host of “The Daily Show” on Comedy Central, will be the featured entertainer for the White House



Whoopi Goldberg was suspended for her Jan. 31 comments about the Holocaust. VALERIE MACON/GETTY-APF 2017

Correspondents’ Association dinner on April 30. It will be the first time the event, usually held annually, will take place since the start of the pandemic. Although former President Donald Trump skipped the dinner during his term, the association suggested that President Joe Biden will be there. The dinner is normally attended by prominent journalists, politicians and celebrities, and it raises money for scholarships. Noah will be busy in April as he is also scheduled to host this year’s Grammy awards.

‘The Good Boss’ big winner at Goyas: Fernando Leon de Aranoa’s “The Good Boss” was the big winner of Spain’s most prestigious film awards, winning six prizes including best picture and best actor for Javier Bardem. Shortlisted for an Oscar

in international feature film category, the workplace satire of an owner set on winning a business prize also earned Leon de Aranoa the award for best director and original screenplay, and also picked up prizes for editing and best score at Saturday’s gala. Blanca Portillo beat out Penelope Cruz for best actress for her role in “Maixabel,” the true story of the widow of a politician who was assassinated by the Basque separatist group ETA.

Feb. 15 birthdays: Actor Claire Bloom is 91. Saxophonist Henry Threadgill is 78. Actor Jane Seymour is 71. Actor Lynn Whitfield is 69. Cartoonist Matt Groening is 68. Actor Steven Michael Quezada is 59. Actor Alex Borstein is 51. Guitarist Gary Clark Jr. is 38. Actor Amber Riley is 36. Rapper Megan Thee Stallion is 27.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

House sale puts family in emotional escrow

Dear Amy: My wife and I bought a house. Our intention was to sell it to my son and his wife for the same price that we paid for it. We rented it out while getting their existing house ready to sell. We agreed to the stipulation that they need to improve how they handle their money. They both work, but live paycheck-to-paycheck. (My daughter-in-law is a spending machine.) The new and bigger house has appreciated 20% since we purchased it, and they both really want to move in, but they have not kept up their end of the bargain. If I cancel this deal or delay selling this house to them, she will go bonkers. She is very headstrong. My son needs to stand up to her, but I am reluctant (I already tried) to put this on him because he is going through treatments for depression — this depression thing has really changed him. He has mentioned failure and suicide. I just cannot support a lifestyle that supplies 37 pair of underwear for their 4-year-old daughter. His mother and I want to do the best thing. What do you think?
— Concerned Father

Dear Father: You are attempting to control this couple, and this is the worst way to go about it. If they are so bad with money, then aren’t you setting them up for failure by putting them into a “new and bigger” house? How will they afford the upkeep and the taxes on this more valuable property?

And because you have such low regard for her and a lack of compassion for him, they should not be financially entangled with you. Overall, if you are trying to inspire someone toward change, you need to agree to specific and achievable milestones. “Improve how they handle their money” is a vague stipulation. Are you in charge of deciding if they have “improved”? This lack of respect is potentially disastrous for your relationship with this family. Your lack of boundaries and harsh judgment will have a negative impact on your son’s mental health. “This depression thing” is real. Depression is a serious illness, and your son should be focused on his health and treatment — not on pleasing you. Your son probably does need to stand up to someone, but in my opinion, you are the person he needs to stand up to. Unfortunately, his depression has likely robbed him of the strength to do that. If you made an agreement, you should stick to your end of it. And then you should remove yourself from all financial control.

Dear Amy: My aunt suddenly lost her husband after more than 50 years of marriage. My uncle was the last living member of that generation on my father’s side. While we live states apart, my aunt and uncle were very kind to me when I was little. We reconnected when my father passed away several years ago and talked often.

I have tried to stay in fairly constant contact with my aunt since my uncle’s death. While my uncle was kind to me, I am learning that he was not a very good husband or father. My aunt shares way more than I should know, but I want to be there for her. How do I continue to support her, but spare myself the graphic details?
— Torn

Dear Torn: You should continue to listen with compassion, while understanding that one way that (some) people express grief after a sudden death is through anger. Let her let it out. Connect with her children to make sure they are offering emotional support to their mother. Look up a grief group in her community and encourage her to attend meetings and connect with others.

Dear Amy: I don’t always agree with you, but I did agree with your response to “Concerned Sister,” who described a situation where she was housing her niece’s boyfriend and keeping it a secret from her own sister. I’m glad you stood up for her need to be transparent about a situation which seems doomed to failure.
— Been There

Dear Been There: This seemed like a situation where the adults needed to be in the know.

Creator’s \$25,000 short paved way to ‘Bel-Air’

Series re-imagines '90s sitcom’s story from top to bottom

By Ashley Lee
Los Angeles Times

In the first episode of “Bel-Air,” a wide-eyed Will arrives at a neoclassical estate, its private drive-way lined with picturesque palm trees and luxury cars. As he stands amid the grand foyer’s artworks and double staircase, he’s asked if he’s all right after everything that’s happened. “It’s all good, Aunt Viv,” he responds with a smile and an eye roll. “I got in one little fight, and my mom got scared.”

That throwaway line is an unmistakable wink at fans of “The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air,” who will immediately recognize those words from the still-syndicated sitcom’s earworm of a theme song. But it hits different in “Bel-Air,” where — by this point in the episode — viewers will have watched Will endure a near-fatal brawl, a night in jail and the fearful scolding of his mother, who sends the West Philadelphia teenager to live with estranged, wealthy relatives on the other side of the country.

Stretching those second-slong lyrics into a 15-minute opening sequence — after which the title appears in glistening, golden, graffiti-less letters — is an up-front declaration: “Bel-Air” is not just another reboot of a well-known TV show. While recent reinventions rest on replicating familiar formats, regurgitating subplots or recasting actors to reprise their roles, the Peacock series, now streaming, is a top-to-bottom re-imagining of the story told on a '90s sitcom.

And like any successful reinterpretation of a cultural touchstone, “Bel-Air” feels simultaneously familiar and uncharted, undeniably rooted in its predecessor and capable of standing on its own.



Jabari Banks, left, as Will and Jordan L. Jones as Jazz in the series “Bel-Air,” a reboot of “The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air.” **PEACOCK**

“I’m not typically a fan of reboots either, so I don’t take offense to people who might be a little bit hesitant about this show,” says “Bel-Air” creator, writer and director Morgan Cooper, 30, a self-taught independent filmmaker and commercial cinematographer. “But creatively, I approached ‘Bel-Air’ like any other fully original idea I’ve had, and I would have never tried to make it if I didn’t have anything to say. This take came from a very pure and honest place. So it’s exciting to subvert people’s expectations. That’s all that any of us want from a story: to be surprised, in a positive way.”

The idea of a present-day “Fresh Prince” retelling came to Cooper, who grew up on its reruns, in May 2018. “I was driving, and the entire vision suddenly hit me — the language, the music, the quality of light,

every detail was clear as day — and I had to make it,” he recalls. He shot the self-funded, \$25,000 project in eight days over two months, with a cast of local actors from his hometown of Kansas City, Missouri. Structured like an intriguing movie trailer, the homegrown short was uploaded the following year and went viral, attracting attention from nearly every agency and studio in Hollywood — along with “Fresh Prince” star Will Smith.

“Over the years, Will has been approached many times with how to redo ‘Fresh Prince’ with a female lead, or with somebody going from Bel-Air to Philly, whatever the new twist is,” says Terence Carter, co-president and head of television at Westbrook Studios, which is producing the series.

“But what Morgan did is more than just a logline.

It’s the way he shot it — not that it looked cool and glossy, but how he lit those characters and captured the Black skin. It felt like this could be a different kind of show, one that takes the best parts of the original and uses it as a jumping-off point to tell the stories of the Black experience that weren’t being explored in other television shows.”

As goofy as “Fresh Prince” could be, it was the sitcom’s more serious storylines — Uncle Phil’s heart attack, Carlton’s firearm possession, Will’s reacquaintance with his absentee father — that cemented its pop culture legacy.

With Smith and the original show’s producers on board, “Bel-Air” sparked a bidding war in summer 2020, with Peacock winning out over Netflix, HBO Max, Amazon and Apple with a two-season deal.

In making its 10-episode debut season, “we made sure to keep the standards that were set in Morgan’s vision, without softening the edges or watering it down in any way,” says co-showrunner Rasheed Newson. “That short film was proof of concept of what the show’s tone and sensibilities needed to be.”

That directive is to continue the conversation “Fresh Prince” moderated — “how the Black experience is not a singular thing,” says Cooper — in a way that’s grounded in today’s reality.

“Bel-Air” episodes pull on threads the original didn’t have the space to fully explore: who Uncle Phil and Aunt Viv were before they became parents, what they’ve sacrificed for their affluent lifestyle, why there’s all that distance between the Banks family and Will’s mother. “With every idea, no

matter how good it was, we had to step back and ask ourselves: ‘Even if you’ve never heard of “The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air,” is it still compelling?’” says co-showrunner T.J. Brady. “This show has to be able to stand up on its own for audiences who are watching cold.”

If it succeeds, “Bel-Air” may well inspire Hollywood to modernize, dramatize and add new dimensions to other beloved TV comedies, continuing a trend that includes Netflix and Pop’s late, lamented remake of “One Day at a Time.”

“I can definitely see a lot of other shows trying to take this approach,” says Matthew A. Cherry, who directs the ninth episode. “This is a really unique situation: The original (intellectual property) had so many dramatic elements in it already, the way it even came to life as something so unexpected. There’s a great value in being first, and it’s very rare that people afterward can replicate those things and recapture that magic in the same way.

“But the brilliance is Morgan. The slang, the music, the look, everything in this show just feels so natural and organic coming from him. He does it in a way that doesn’t feel so coordinated and is actually authentic and super cool. And he’s just an incredible person.”

Cooper isn’t nervous about how “Bel-Air” will be received.

“Listen, there’s always going to be people for whom this may not be their cup of tea,” he says. “As artists, if we try too hard to appeal to everyone, then we don’t make things that are meaningful to anyone. I think viewers can sense that energy. So it’s very important to check in about that intention ... You have to really remember why you’re making the art in the first place. It’s got to be done from a place of love. From that standpoint, I think anything is possible.”

TV Q&A

Why are shows edited for reruns?

By Rich Heldenfels
Tribune News Service

Q: I am now going to the library for videos of TV shows thanks to what has become a shambles on off-net-work programming. Due to the horrendous editing of programs, I cannot understand plots anymore with over 15 minutes missing. There is never a slide saying the show has been edited like when there is with a feature film.

A: The amount of commercial time in a program has grown over the years (to about a third of the total running time). With older programs where the original commercial load was smaller, some programmers and syndicators will often trim content or speed up the show a bit to make room for more ads (which can also be awkwardly placed, breaking up scenes that were not meant to be interrupted). Besides changes to meet broadcast standards, movies also get trimmed and sped, to make room for ads while fitting a time slot. (As you noted, those movie deals at least call for an advisory about the editing.) I have heard shows’ makers and stars lament the changes because it spoils the way the program was meant to be seen, for example messing up the timing of a joke. But that has not really stopped the money grab.

Yes, some services offer uncut and even uninterrupted versions of shows, but you have to be watchful. Even when you go searching for the DVDs of shows, look closely at the fine print. Some shows are released on disc in versions trimmed for syndication. They may also have different music, but that’s another long story.

Q: There is a movie



Some classic TV shows are released on disc in versions where episodes have been trimmed for syndication. **DREAMSTIME**

I saw in 1959 and am trying to find: “Sapphire,” with Nigel Patrick and Yvonne Mitchell.

A: While I have not seen an authorized DVD in a format compatible with U.S. players, you can find it for rent or purchase digitally on Amazon’s Prime Video and Apple TV. There’s also pretty good-looking print on YouTube. The Criterion Channel (criterionchannel.com) also has it streaming; the channel has a membership fee but also has a free trial period.

Q: There was a Western Burt Lancaster and Audrey Hepburn in called “The Unforgiven.” I have been waiting for years to see that on TV. Can you tell me if I will?

A: As you know, “on TV” these days covers an enormous amount of ground — broadcast, cable, satellite, downloads and streaming. This 1960 Western, directed by John Huston, is on Amazon Prime Video and the streaming service Tubi, as well as being available for rent on Vudu. It has also been released on DVD and Blu-ray.

Q: I would like to know who won the top prize on the latest “America’s Got Talent” show. It never aired — or did I miss it?

A: Magician Dustin Tavella won the 16th season of the talent show last year. You can see the finale on NBC.com and on Peacock. The show will be back later this year. There is also a companion show, “America’s Got Talent: Extreme,” arriving in February with “outrageous acts of enormous scale.”

Q: We are fans of the series “Endeavour” from PBS, now streaming on Prime. Season 7 seems to have been released, but we can only get through episode 3. Why?

A: There are only three episodes in the season. “Endeavour” has apparently never had more than six episodes in a season, and many times had four. But some shows are designed as a set of feature-length productions instead of hourlong episodes. The Benedict Cumberbatch “Sherlock” did that, and so has “Endeavour” — so those three episodes are more like a bundle of movies. There is an eighth season coming — with three episodes.

Do you have a question or comment about entertainment past, present and future? Write to Rich Heldenfels, P.O. Box 417, Mogadore, OH 44260, or brenfels@gmail.com. Letters may be edited.

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19):

You feel a little isolated just now. Necessary social obligations take up more time than you would like. Keep in mind that any frustrations are temporary. You also might be assuming a planned encounter will be boring when it could be quite the opposite.

Taurus (April 20-May 20):

You may discover that your current views are unpopular. Remember that unpopular doesn’t mean totally rejected. When dealing with the way this affects your responsibilities, it can be hard to keep everyone happy. It might be easier just to focus on remaining true to yourself.

Gemini (May 21-June 20):

This isn’t the best day to deal with anything unfamiliar. Things will probably go more smoothly if you stick to the places, people and ways of doing things that you understand. If that isn’t possible, even mundane things could be harder work than anticipated.

Cancer (June 21-July 22):

You need to rely more on your own devices than you’d like right now. Although that thought can be a little bit worrying, in reality you’re probably more than capable. Instead of worrying about what will happen if you fail, think of the potential results if you succeed.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):

You might be putting up walls between yourself and someone else without even realizing. Looking at potential trust issues from your past may be a good place to start. Perhaps you’ve been let down before. Try not to view your situation too negatively or you could create a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

Your body might be telling you something important today. If you’re feeling grumpy, it would be a good idea to get checked out. Although you could simply be in a bad mood, it also may be a sign of a larger issue. Even if it turns out to be a small issue, it would be better to be safe than sorry.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):

Guilt could be sneaking into your head today. Instead of wallowing in regret, you could improve your and others’ life by making up for it. Making a call to put things right will only take a moment. Whether or not anything bad has happened, a kind word couldn’t hurt.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):

This is a day when the needs of others outweigh your own. While you don’t have to put all your hopes aside to make someone else happy, you might be asked to give up a bit of your time to make someone else’s life a little easier. You could end up doing what needs to be done.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):

Being alert to people’s body language could make all the difference. Words matter, but the way others hold themselves can tell you a lot about how they feel. It may help you work out if they’re saying what they think you want to hear. That information might turn out to be really useful.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

Your budget doesn’t allow a lot of room to maneuver. The sooner you act, the sooner you can stop yourself from ending up in debt. An adjustment to your expenses here and there could make a difference. You have plenty of time to gain control over your situation.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

Spiraling into negativity might be unfortunately easy at this time. Life isn’t perfect, but there’s a good chance that it isn’t as bad as you think. Even negative feelings can be useful as they can encourage you to look more closely at current events and your own emotions.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):

The past may come back to haunt you today. Dwelling on it now won’t change what’s already happened. Treat it like a life lesson and use this knowledge to avoid making the same mistake in the future. If you find it hard to handle, reach out to someone else for another perspective.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Feb. 15, 1879, Rutherford B. Hayes signed a bill allowing female attorneys to argue cases before the Supreme Court.

In 1898, the U.S. battleship Maine mysteriously blew

up, killing more than 260 crew members and bringing the United States closer to war with Spain.

In 1933, President-elect Franklin D. Roosevelt escaped an assassination attempt in Miami.

In 1965, singer Nat King Cole, 45, died in California.

In 1967, the rock band Chicago was founded.

In 2003, protesters around the world demonstrated against the prospect of a U.S. attack on Iraq.

In 2021, winter weather brought unusual snow and cold into Texas, knocking out power for more than 4 million people; the icy blast would later be blamed for more than 100 deaths in Texas and dozens more across other Southern states.

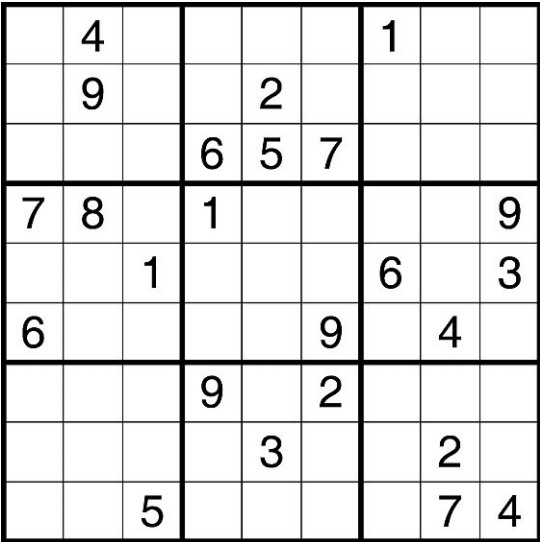
BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.playjumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

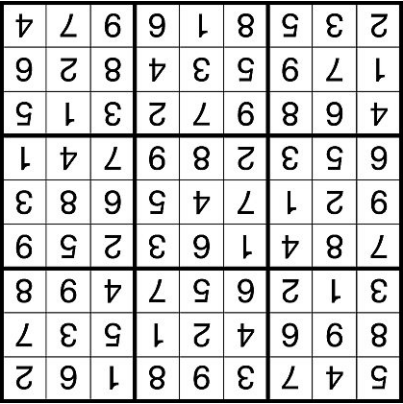
SUDOKU



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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.



BOGGLE



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



BOGGLE is a trademark of Hasbro, Inc. © 2019 Hasbro, Inc. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency. All Rights Reserved. www.bogglebrainbusters.com

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once with a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

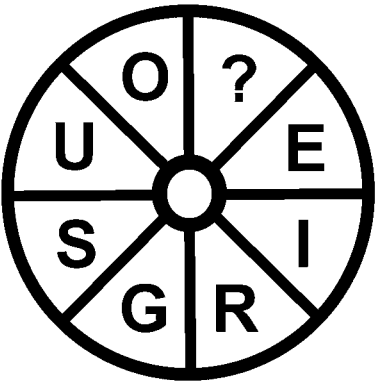
BOGGLE POINT SCALE
3 letters = 1 point
4 letters = 2 points
5 letters = 3 points
6 letters = 4 points
7 letters = 6 points
8 letters = 10 points
9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING
151+ = Champ
101-150 = Expert
61-100 = Pro
31-60 = Gamer
21-30 = Rookie
11-20 = Amateur
0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?
Find AT LEAST SIX MONTHS in the grid of letters.

MAY JUNE JULY APRIL MARCH JANUARY

WordWheel



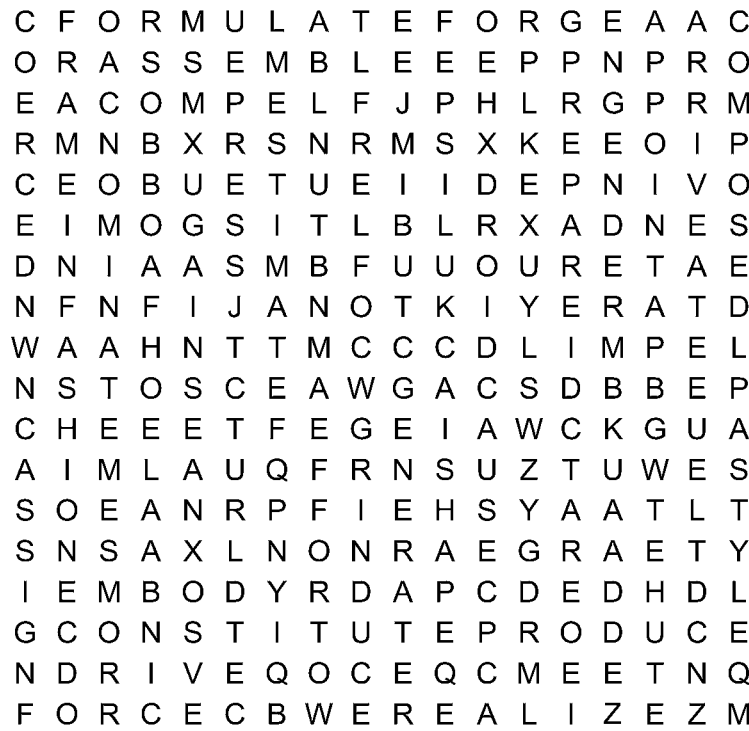
Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

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WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: on the make

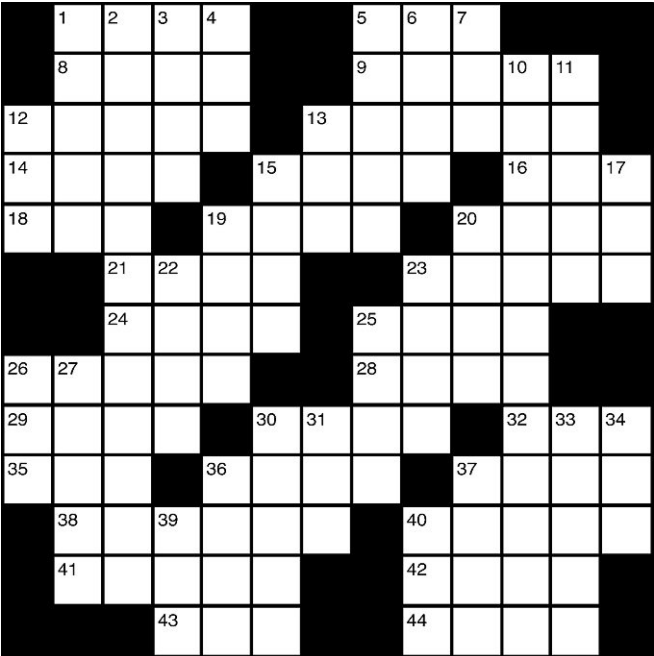
Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.



- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| APPOINT | DRAW UP | FORGE | MOULD |
| ARRIVE AT | DRIVE | FORMULATE | NOMINATE |
| ASSEMBLE | EARN | FRAME | PREPARE |
| ASSIGN | EFFORT | GAIN | PRESS |
| BUILD | ELECT | GAUGE | PRODUCE |
| CAUSE | EMBODY | GENERATE | READY |
| COERCE | ENGENDER | IMPEL | REALIZE |
| COMPEL | ESTABLISH | INDUCE | SHAPE |
| COMPOSE | ESTIMATE | MANUFACTURE | STYLE |
| CONSTITUTE | FASHION | MEET | TEMPER |
| CREATE | FORCE | MODEL | |

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/28/16

ACROSS

- 1 Dad on "Little People, Big World"
5 Linden of "Barney Miller"
8 Alda or Thicke
9 Roy Rogers and Dale
12 Out of ____; no longer available from the publisher
13 Julianna Margulies' role on "The Good Wife"
14 Jagger of the Stones
15 Wilma Flintstone's man
16 AB followers
18 "We're off to ____ the Wizard..."
19 "____ Wolf"; Tyler Posey series
20 "____ from Muskogee"; Merle Haggard song
21 Bride's accessory
23 "Touched by an ____"
24 Cain's brother
25 "Zip-____ Doo-Dah"
26 Ignores with disdain
28 Sitcom set in Korea
29 Cribbage board pieces
30 Follow orders
32 Remain behind
35 Bit of sooty residue



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8/28/16

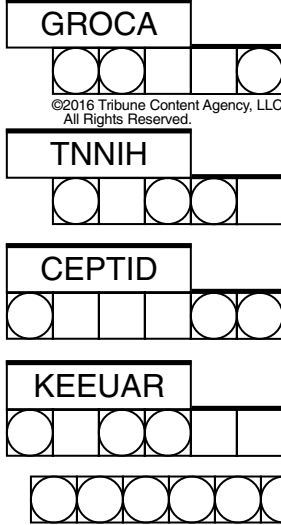
- 36 Actress and dancer ____ Verdon
37 Hairdo for the Jackson Five
38 "America's Got ____"
40 Apple or pear
41 Trap
42 Davy Crockett portrayal ____ Parker
43 Marry
44 "Cold ____"; series for Kathryn Morris

DOWN

- 1 Actress Eva ____ Saint
2 Role on "The Catch"
3 "Shark ____"
4 Explosive letters
5 Hayes or Hunt
6 Gung-ho
7 Fond du ____; Wisconsin
10 Actor on "Chicago Med"
11 ____ Calvino; actress on "Mom"
12 Afternoons, for short
13 "Who Do You Think You ____?"
15 Actor Norman ____
17 Sushi bar offering
19 "Family ____"; Michael J. Fox series
20 "The Crazy ____"; last series for Robin Williams
22 Recedes; diminishes
23 "Queen for ____"
25 Sherman Hemsley sitcom
26 Jacuzzi
27 Treetop homes
30 Possessed
31 "You ____ Your Life"; Groucho's show
33 Go skyward
34 "I've ____ a Secret"
36 Actor Richard ____
37 Length times width
39 "____ & Order"
40 Director and producer Coppola's monogram

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Jumbles: CARGO NINTH DEPICT EUREKA
Answer: To figure out how to send orange juice to WWII troops, the researchers — CONCENTRATED

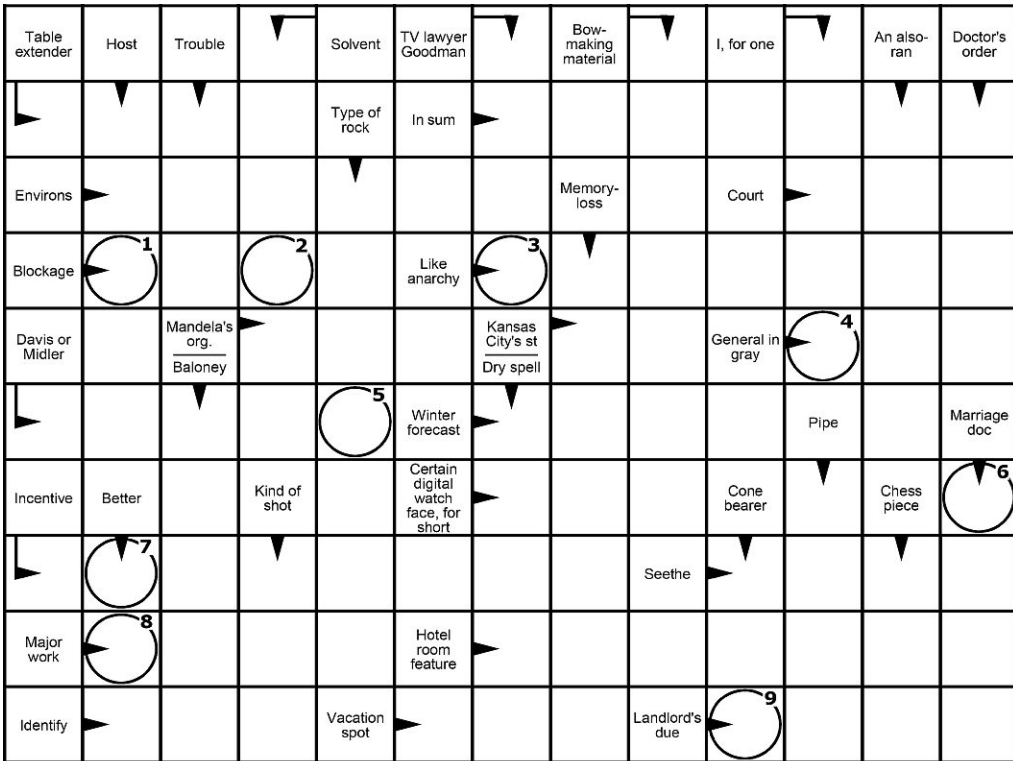
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

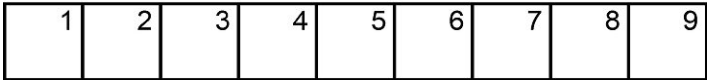
ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

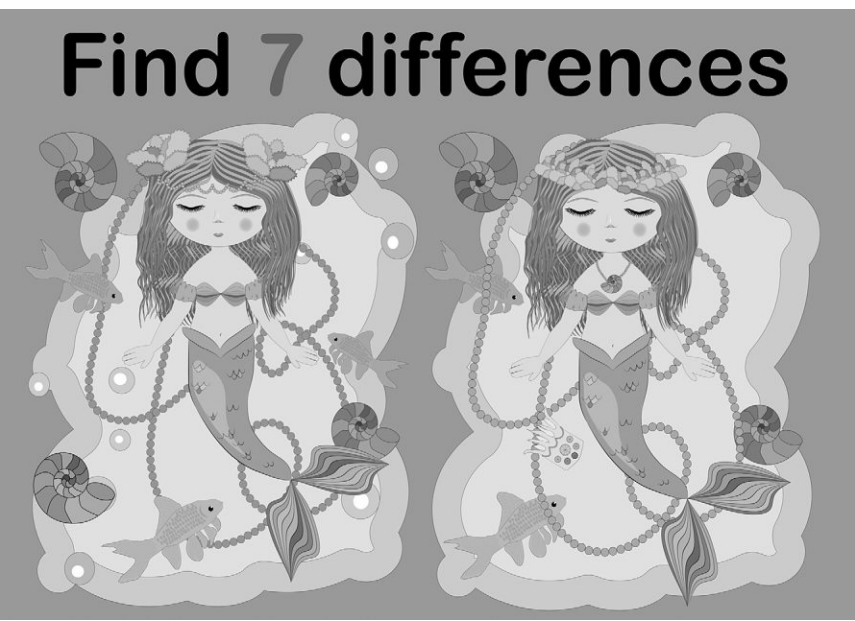
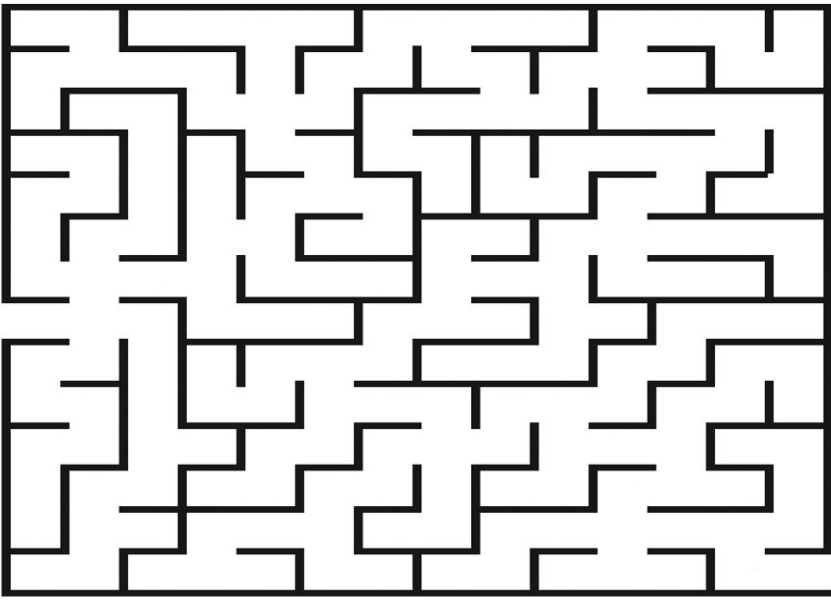


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4/25/20



KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



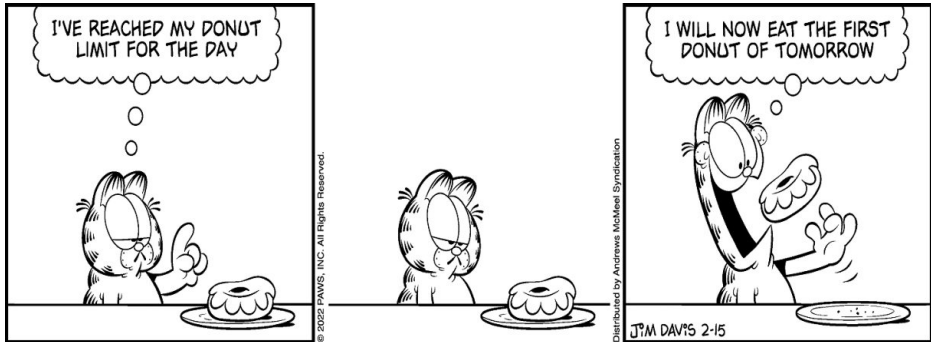
Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



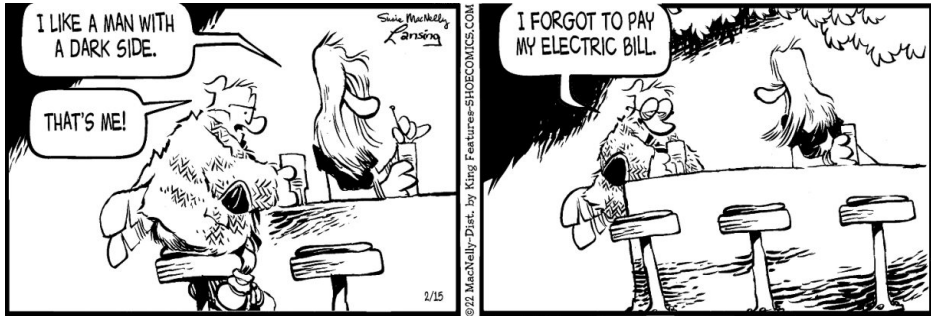
Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



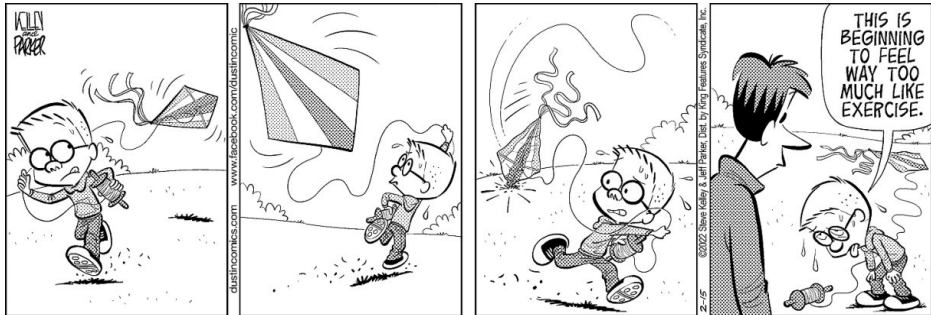
Garfield By Jim Davis



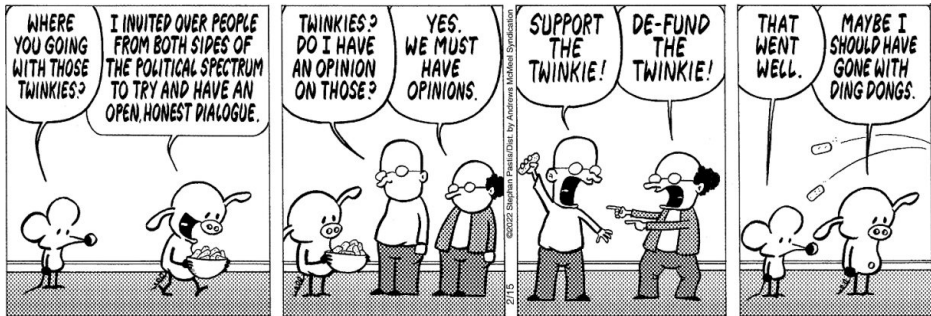
Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



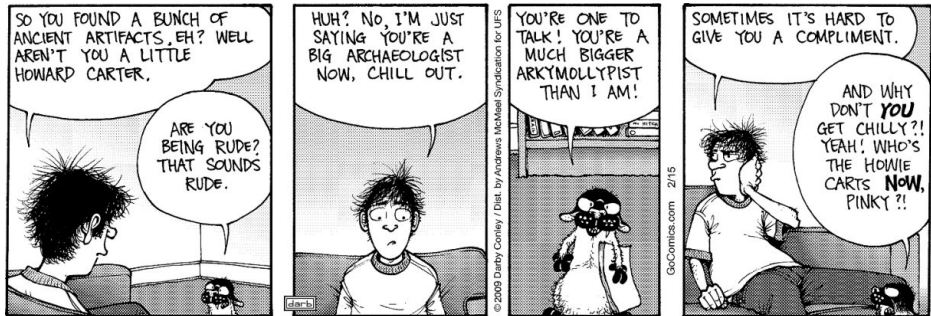
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



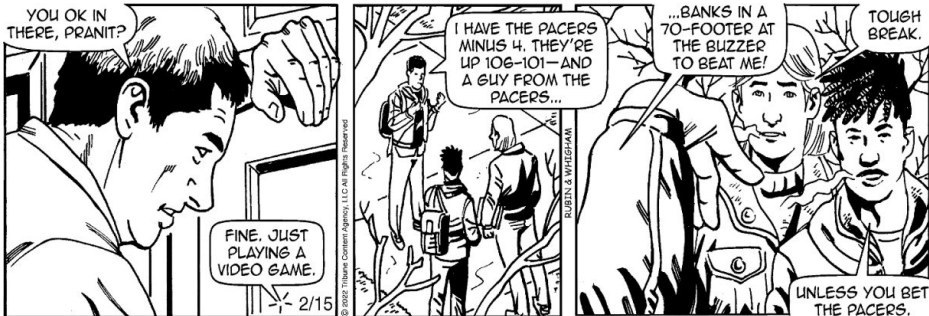
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



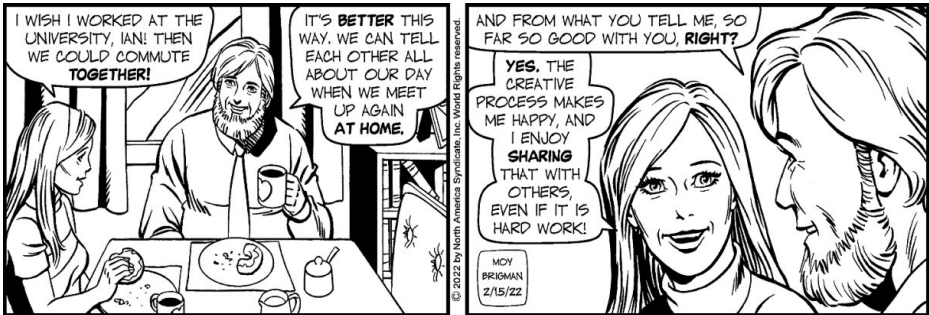
Dilbert By Scott Adams



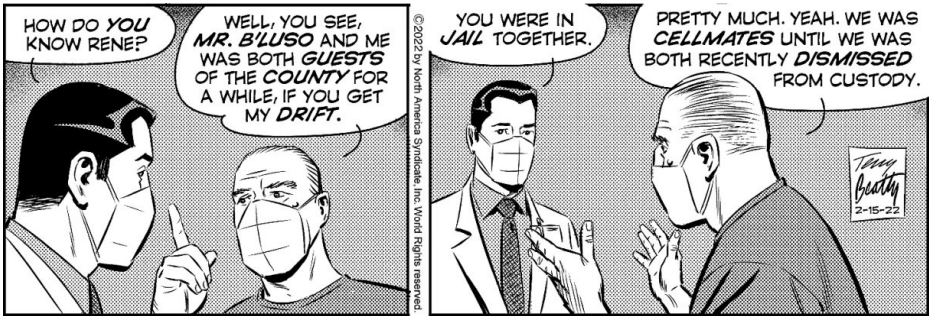
Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



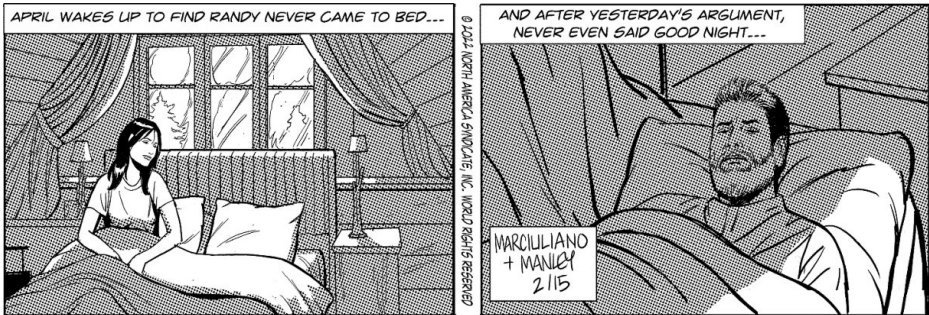
Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



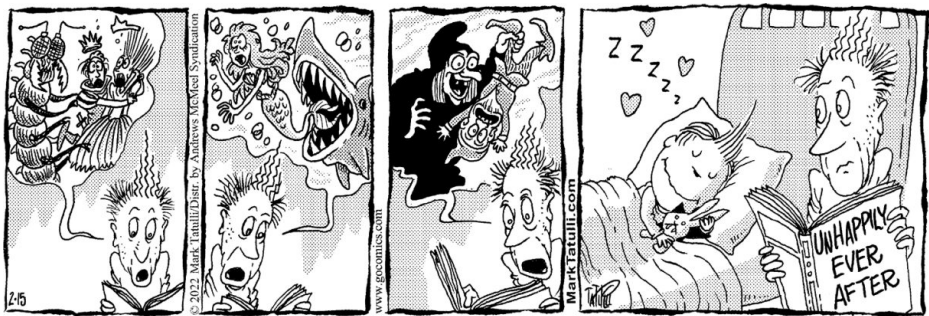
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



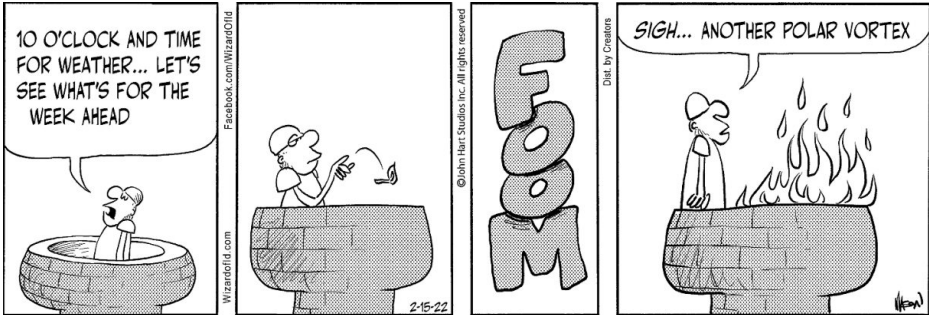
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



Lio By Mark Tatulli



Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



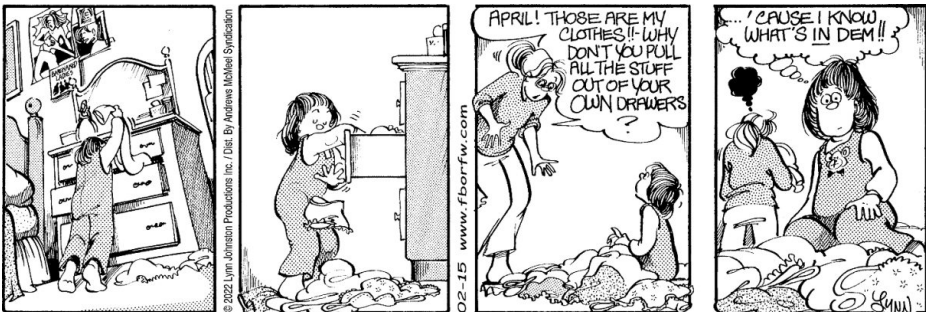
Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



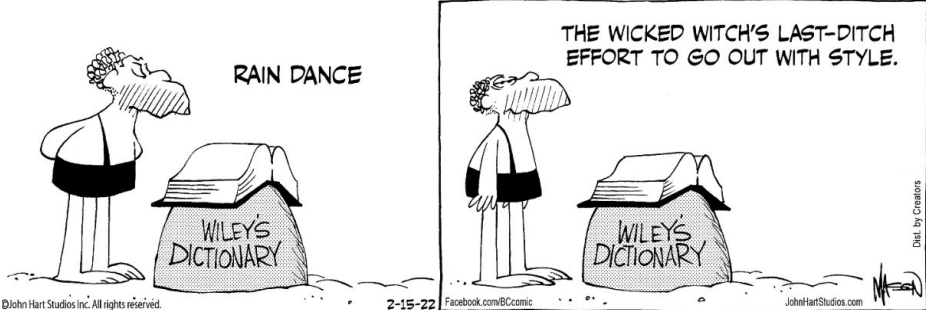
Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



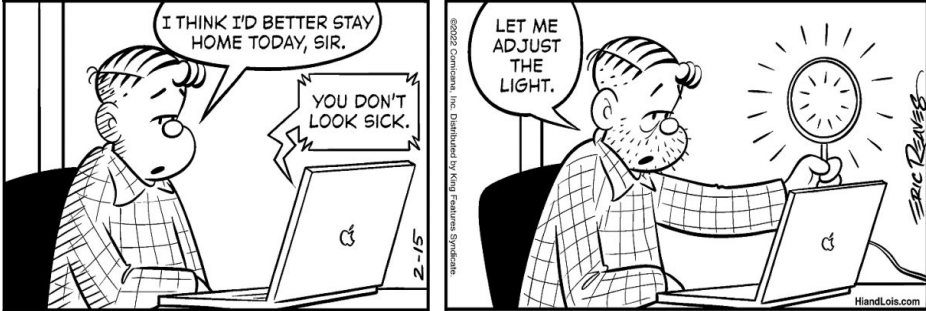
B.C. By Hart



Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker



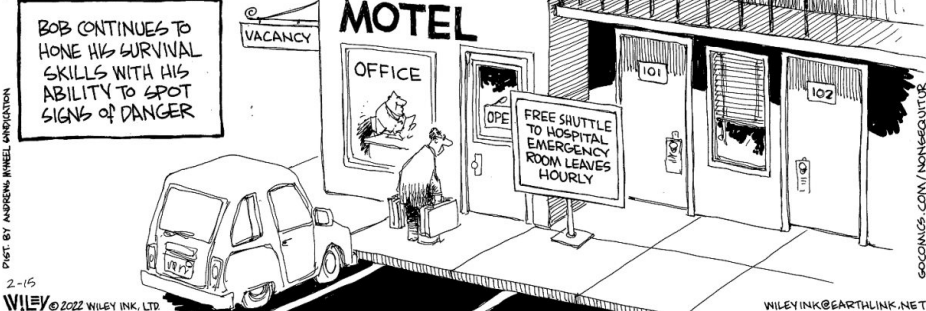
Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne



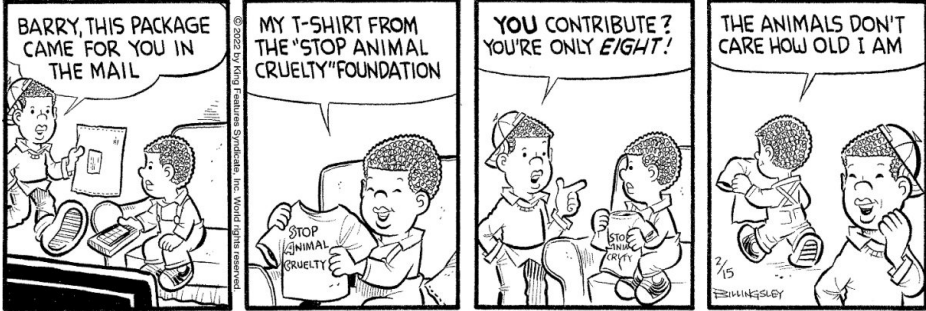
Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne



Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller



Curtis By Ray Billingsley



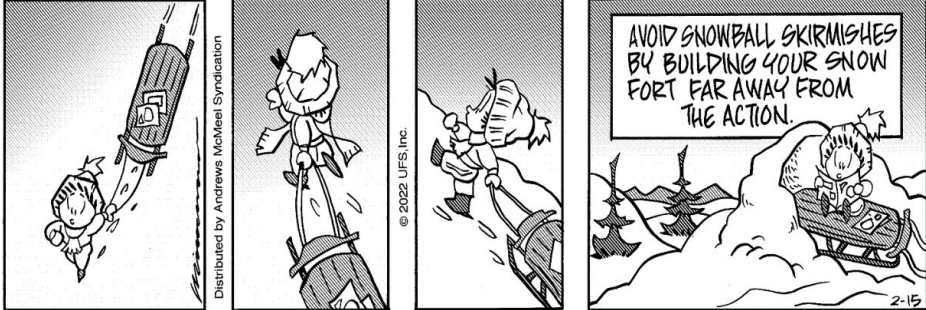
Pickles By Brian Crane



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer



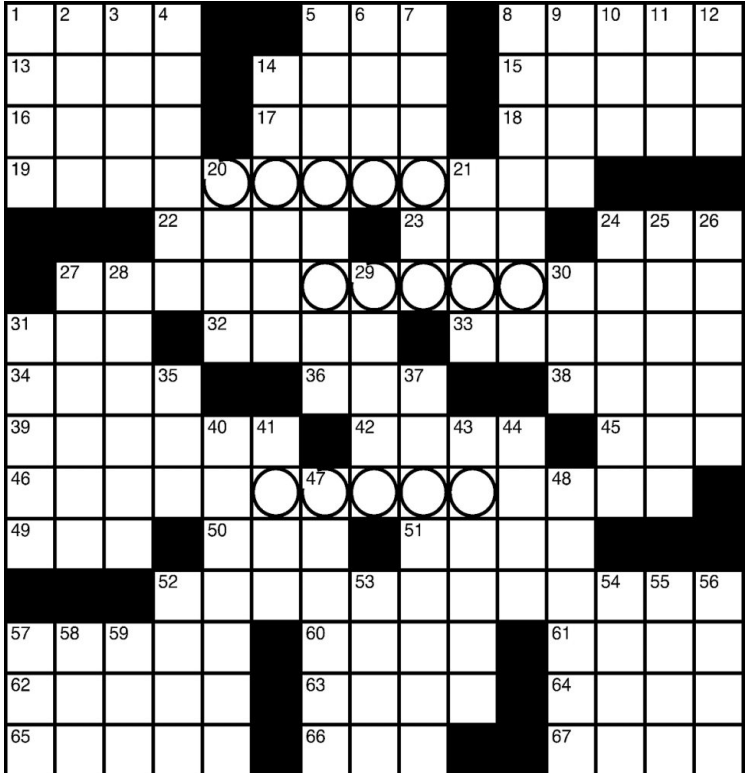
Mother Goose And Grimm By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

- Across**
- 1 Acting credits list
 - 5 Start to crumble?
 - 8 “__ of a Salesman”
 - 13 “The Godfather” enforcer __ Brasi
 - 14 It's true
 - 15 __ City Music Hall
 - 16 Singer Lambert who sometimes sings with Queen
 - 17 Thing to scratch
 - 18 Equipment, on a balance sheet
 - 19 Historic U.S. Olympics hockey victory, familiarly
 - 22 Tolkien trilogy, to fans
 - 23 Hosp. crisis area
 - 24 Peter and Agnes: Abbr.
 - 27 Satirist who redefined the word “truthiness”
 - 31 Rd. or hwy.
 - 32 Brontë's Jane
 - 33 Unpeaceful, queasy feeling
 - 34 Structure with a keystone
 - 36 Some school RAs
 - 38 “__ Yankees”
 - 39 Iroquoian people, or a hairstyle named for them
 - 42 Enjoy an e-cig
 - 45 Admin on Reddit
 - 46 Police storage facility
 - 49 Formerly named
 - 50 “The Simpsons” outburst
 - 51 Comics villain __ Kadabra
 - 52 Tennis format with man-and-woman pairs ... and a hint to each set of circles
 - 57 Fast
 - 60 Red gem
 - 61 Move like molasses
 - 62 Garlicky spread
 - 63 Votes for
 - 64 Shrek, for one
 - 65 Welcome at the door
 - 66 Std. paper size
 - 67 Pained whine
 - 6 Shoe brand that sounds like a sound
 - 7 Word before origin or identity
 - 8 Van Helsing nemesis
 - 9 Facility
 - 10 They pop up too often
 - 11 Draw
 - 12 Sweltering
 - 14 Extremely, as rich
 - 20 Deal (with)
 - 21 Emoji, for one
 - 24 Key tahini ingredient
 - 25 Quake aftershock
 - 26 Rise
 - 27 Tried hard (for)
 - 28 Geek Squad member
 - 29 Stomach or guts
 - 30 Flower harbinger
 - 31 Collegian's diet staple
 - 35 Ate
 - 37 Counter offering Italian, French and Russian options
 - 40 “Congrats to us!”
 - 41 “Goldfinger” fort
 - 43 Nawlins subs
 - 44 Beige look-alike
 - 47 Women's Basketball Hall of Famer Miller
 - 48 Comics explosion
 - 52 “Walk a __ in My Shoes”: Joe South hit
 - 53 Two piece?
 - 54 See 2-Down
 - 55 Poet Pound
 - 56 Noticed
 - 57 “The Entertainer,” e.g.
 - 58 Word with bag or ball
 - 59 “The Raven” writer



By Hoang-Kim Vu Tribune Content Agency 2/15/22

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

West dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A 2
♥ 7 4
♦ K J 7 5 2
♣ J 10 6 3

WEST
♠ 10 6 5
♥ K J 10 9 6 3
♦ A 8
♣ A 7

EAST
♠ J 9 8 4
♥ 5 2
♦ 10 9 6 3
♣ 9 5 4

SOUTH
♠ K Q 7 3
♥ A Q 8
♦ Q 4
♣ K Q 8 2

The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ Pass Pass Dble
2♥ 3♦ Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — jack of hearts.

Forewarned is forearmed

There are many hands where, when the play begins, declarer has no idea how the opposing cards are distributed. If he then adopts the most promising line of play and it happens to fail, he cannot be faulted, even though some other approach might have proven successful.

But there are also many instances where declarer knows a great deal about the unseen hands because of the bidding. If there is sufficient information available to him to find the winning line of play and he does not do so, then the blame can be laid squarely on his doorstep.

Consider today's deal where South arrives at three notrump on the bidding shown. Given West's opening bid, declarer should have no trouble finding the winning route to nine tricks.

But if he makes the slightest slip along the way, he will fail.

The critical play comes at trick two, after South wins the opening heart lead with the queen. If he next leads the queen of

diamonds, West wins, continues hearts and later gets in with the ace of clubs to put the contract down two.

If instead declarer leads a club at trick two, West takes the ace, continues hearts and South eventually goes down one.

But observe the difference if South leads a low diamond at trick two. If West puts up the ace, declarer has nine tricks — four diamonds, two hearts and three spades. And if West ducks the diamond instead, dummy's jack wins. South then abandons diamonds and drives out the ace of clubs to assure nine tricks in the form of three clubs, three spades, two hearts and a diamond.

The winning line of play is not difficult to find given West's bidding, which marks him with both missing aces. Armed with this information, South simply arranges the play so that he is sure to score nine tricks before West can get five.

Tomorrow: A precautionary measure.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

IZOGM
RTFEA
GJEGOR
LETNER

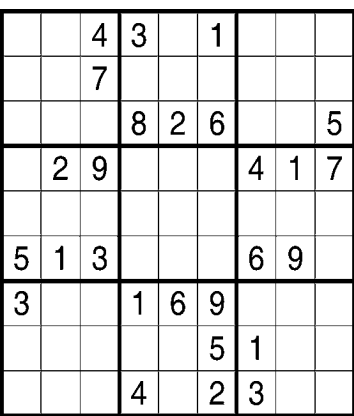


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print the answer here: _____ (Answers tomorrow)

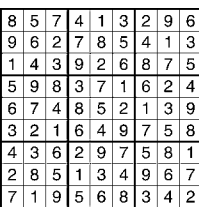
Yesterday's Jumbles: SLOSH DAISY KITTEN SWIVEL
Answer: The fin-footed marine mammal smooching his girlfriend was a — SEAL WITH A KISS

TODAY'S SUDOKU



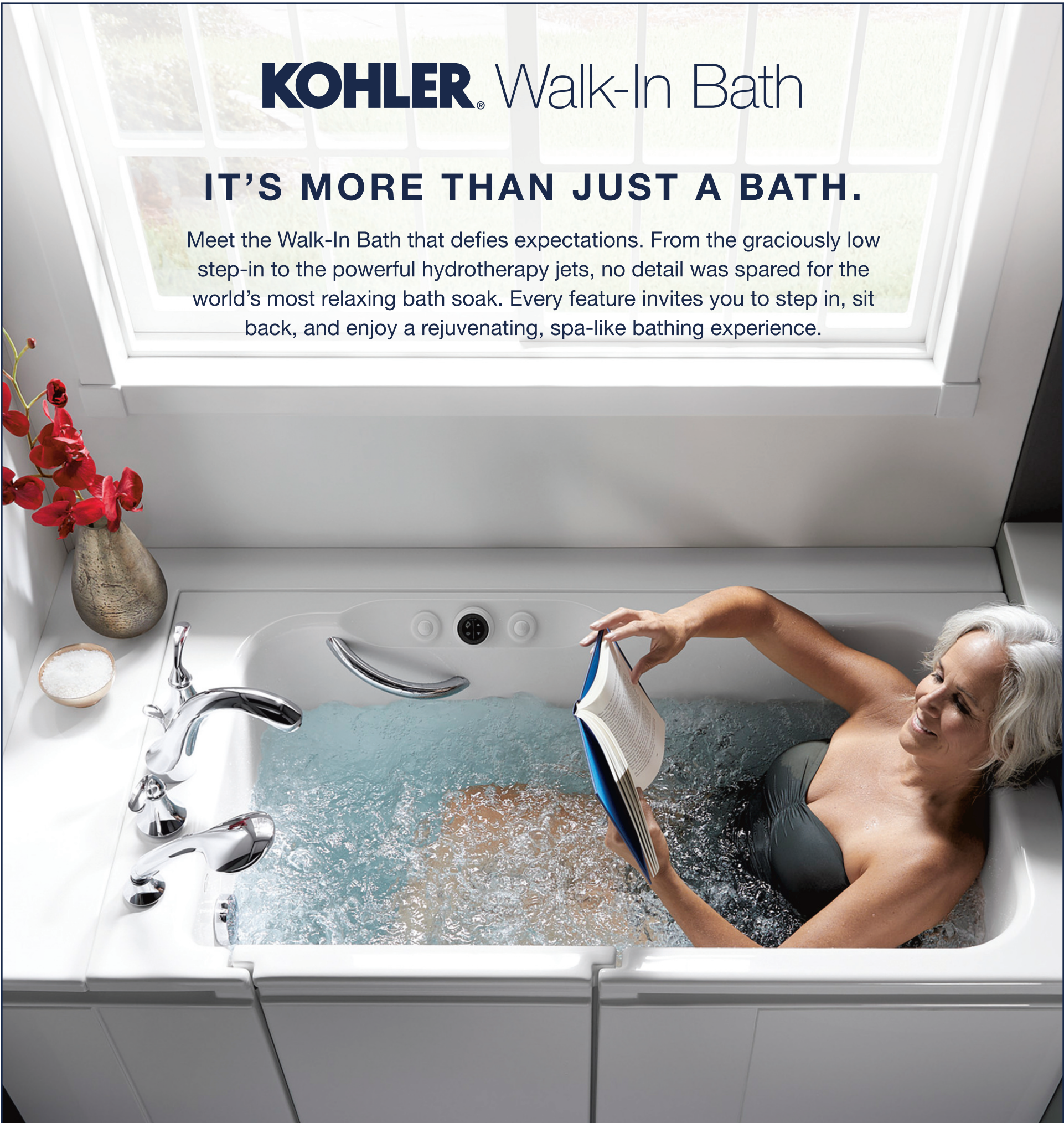
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE





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[†]Offer ends February 28, 2022. Participating dealers only. Not available in AK; HI; Nassau Cty, Suffolk Cty, Westchester Cty, or City of Buffalo, NY. 50% off installation labor applies to the installation of the Walk-In Bath and may exclude costs associated with plumbing and electrical. Cannot be combined with any other advertised offer. Contact local dealer for financing details. *Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. There is no minimum monthly payment required during the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, equal opportunity lender banks. NMLS #1416362. GreenSky® Program is a program name for certain consumer credit plans extended by participating lenders to borrowers for the purchase of goods and/or services from participating merchants. Participating lenders are federally insured, equal opportunity lender banks. GreenSky® is a registered trademark of GreenSky, LLC. GreenSky Servicing, LLC services the loans on behalf of participating lenders. NMLS #1416362 GreenSky® financing offers available at participating dealers only.

Hartford Courant

SPORTS

COURANT.COM / SPORTS

UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

How Fudd has answered the call in an odd season

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

The Azzi Fudd UConn Experience has been more up and down than most fans envisioned when the star recruit signed with the Huskies in November 2020. Fudd, the No. 1 prospect in the class of 2021, was sidelined just four games into her freshman season with a lingering foot issue that had been bothering her since the summer. December and most of January came and went with Fudd, and best friend/reigning national player of the year Paige Bueckers, relegated

Up next



UConn at Xavier
7 p.m. Friday, SNY

to the bench with injuries, the rest of the Huskies struggling at times without what was expected to be one of the most lethal backcourt duos in the nation.

Bueckers is still working her way back, but since Fudd returned to the rotation at the end of January, she's emerged as a critical piece to the Huskies' success. And when fellow freshman Caroline Duch-

rme and senior Olivia Nelson-Ododa went down with injuries, no one has answered the call over the last four games more than Fudd, who has not just become a more consistent offensive threat, but the go-to player and star force that UConn so desperately needed.

After dropping 24 points in UConn's 72-58 win Sunday at Marquette, Fudd has scored at least that many in three of her last four outings. And as she rattled off eight straight points, including two 3s, to

Turn to UConn, Page 4



UConn's Azzi Fudd shoots over Villanova's Lucy Olsen in a game Feb. 9 in Hartford. Fudd has scored 24 or more points in three of her past four games. JESSICA HILL/AP

WINTER OLYMPICS



Bronze medalists Madison Hubbell and Zachary Donohue of the United States celebrate during the medal ceremony for the ice dance figure skating Monday competition in Beijing. SUE OGROCKI/AP

RETIREMENT PLAN

Madison's Zachary Donohue and partner Madison Hubbell win Olympic bronze medal in ice dancing before closing out careers

By Sally Ho
Associated Press

BEIJING — After skating to a bronze medal at the Beijing Games, American ice dancers Madison Hubbell and Zachary Donohue bent down and kissed the ice where the Olympic rings were painted.

"It was just a moment, I think, for both of us to say goodbye to Olympic ice," Hubbell said, "and thank this journey that's created, you know, the people that we are today."

The longtime American standard-bearers in ice dancing embraced Monday after their free dance to Anne Sila's "Drowning" to wrap up their competition. It marked their last Olympic skate, and the sweetest end to a decade-long career together that produced two world championship silver

medals and the title at the Grand Prix Final.

Their bronze also means the United States has medaled in each of the first three figure skating events at the Beijing Olympics. Hubbell and Donohue were part of the team silver medal before Nathan Chen, cheering them on Monday from a vocal section of American fans in the corner of the Capital Indoor Stadium, captured gold in the men's event.

"To take in this new experience at the end of our career is something we're very, very grateful for," said Donohue, who was born in Hartford and grew up in Madison.

That silver in the team event from last week — which fourth-place ice dance finishers Madison Chock and Evan Bates also helped earn — could be upgraded to gold

Turn to Olympics, Page 4

WINTER OLYMPICS AT A GLANCE

A look at top results and news from the Beijing Games.

MEDAL LEADERS (as of 10 p.m. ET Monday)				
Country	G	S	B	Tot
Norway	9	5	7	21
Russian Olympic Committee	4	6	8	18
United States	7	6	3	16
Germany	8	5	2	15
Austria	5	6	4	15

HIGHLIGHTS

- Despite a positive test for a banned substance, Russian teenager Kamila Valieva, right, was given the green light to participate in the women's figure skating competition Tuesday.
 - Kallie Humphries led a gold-silver finish for the U.S., becoming the monobob's first Olympic champion.
 - The U.S. women's hockey team beat Finland 4-1 and will face rival Canada for the gold Thursday. Canada routed Switzerland 10-3 in the other semi.
- More coverage, Pages 3, 5



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

UCONN MEN'S BASKETBALL

Ugly still beautiful for Huskies

Behind defense and Martin, UConn gutted out win over St. John's with very few style points

By Shreyas Laddha
Hartford Courant

The UConn men's basketball team found a way to win ugly on Sunday afternoon.

The Huskies defeated St. John's 63-60 at Madison Square Garden, capping a busy stretch of four games in nine days. After finishing with two victories (Marquette and St. John's) and one loss (Xavier) in the past week, the Huskies remained No. 24 in the latest AP Poll released Monday.

The Big East had three teams ranked in the poll, Providence at No. 8, Villanova at No. 10 and UConn.

While the Huskies' win wasn't particularly pretty — especially on the offensive end as they shot 24-for-66 (36.4%) — they found a way to win on the road. It's a testament to the growth UConn has had as a team that has struggled to close out games, which cost them at times this season. In a conference full of upsets seemingly every night, it's crucial to win games you're supposed to win.

UConn coach Dan Hurley praised the competitiveness of the Big East.

"UConn basketball hasn't been in a league like this since we left the Big East," he said. "Every night is nothing but quality. Home or on the road, you are guaranteed absolutely nothing. It's awesome to play in a league like this."

The Huskies have a three-game home stretch where they will face Seton Hall, Xavier, and Villanova, all of which they have lost to. This will be a big test for UConn and a chance to improve its Q1 win record from 3-6.

As the Huskies face a gauntlet of opponents ahead, here's what we learned about them from the St. John's game:

Turn to Huskies, Page 4

Up next



Seton Hall at UConn
8:30 p.m. Wed.
at Gampel Pavilion, CBSN

Safety Tip of the Day

Is there snow or ice on the ground? Look ahead when you walk. A sidewalk completely covered with ice may require travel along its grassy edge for traction.

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SPORTS

UP NEXT

UConn MBB: Seton Hall (Gampel), Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.; Xavier (Gampel), Saturday, noon; Villanova (XL), Feb. 22, 8 p.m.
UConn WBB: at Xavier, Friday, 7 p.m.; Georgetown (XL), Sunday, 2 p.m.; Marquette (XL), Feb. 23, 7 p.m.
Celtics: at 76ers, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.; Pistons, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; at Nets, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Knicks: Nets, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; Heat, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m.; 76ers, Feb. 27, 1 p.m.
Nets: at Knicks, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.; Wizards, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Celtics, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m.
UConn hockey: UMass, Friday, 7 p.m.; at UMass, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; at Northeastern, Feb. 25, 7 p.m.
Bruins: at Rangers, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; at Islanders, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; at Senators, Saturday, 7 p.m.
Rangers: Bruins, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Red Wings, Thursday, 7 p.m.; at Senators, Sunday, 5 p.m.
Wolf Pack: Providence, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Bridgeport, Sunday, 3 p.m.; at Springfield, Feb. 25, 7 p.m.

TV/RADIO

AUTO RACING
5 p.m.: NASCAR Cup Series Bluegreen Vacations Duel 1 at DAYTONA, Practice. (Live) FS1
6:30 p.m.: NASCAR Cup Series Bluegreen Vacations Duel 2 at DAYTONA, Practice. (Live) FS1
BASKETBALL
6 p.m.: Kent State at Toledo. (Live) CBSSN
7 p.m.: Florida at Texas A&M. (Live) SEC
7 p.m.: Wake Forest at Duke. (Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: Texas at Oklahoma. (Live) ESPN2
7 p.m.: South Carolina at Ole Miss. (Live) ESPNU
7:30 p.m.: Celtics at 76ers. (Live) TNT
8 p.m.: NC State at Georgia Tech. (Live) ACC
8 p.m.: Villanova at Providence. (Live) CBSSN
9 p.m.: Arkansas at Missouri. (Live) SEC
9 p.m.: Kentucky at Tennessee. (Live) ESPN
9 p.m.: Wisconsin at Indiana. (Live) ESPN2
9 p.m.: Iowa State at TCU. (Live) ESPNU
9 p.m.: Butler at DePaul. (Live) FS1
10 p.m.: Utah State at San Diego State. (Live) CBSSN
10 p.m.: Clippers at Suns. (Live) TNT
11 p.m.: San Jose State at Nevada. (Live) FS1
HOCKEY
7 p.m.: Bruins at Rangers. (Live) NESN, MSG
OLYMPICS
10:30 a.m.: Combined. (Same-day Tape) USA
11:30 a.m.: Biathlon. (Same-day Tape) USA
12:30 p.m.: Bobsled. (Same-day Tape) USA
1:30 p.m.: Freestyle Skiing. (Same-day Tape) USA
2 p.m.: Nordic Combined, Biathlon, Speed Skating, Snowboarding. (Same-day Tape) NBC
2:30 p.m.: Women's Curling -- U.S. vs Switzerland. (Same-day Tape) USA
5 p.m.: Men's Curling - Italy vs U.S. (Same-day Tape) CNBC
8 p.m.: Bobsled, Figure Skating, Alpine Skiing, Speed Skating. (Live) NBC
8 p.m.: Women's Curling Canada vs U.S. (Live) CNBC
8:30 p.m.: Freestyle Skiing. (Live) USA
11 p.m.: Men's Hockey, First Quarterfinal U.S. vs TBA. (Live) USA
12:05 a.m.: Freestyle Skiing, Alpine Skiing. (Live) NBC
1 a.m.: Men's Hockey, Second Quarterfinal ROC vs TBA. (Live) USA
3:40 a.m.: Men's Hockey, Third Quarterfinal Finland vs TBA. (Live) USA
SOCCER
12:25 p.m.: Italian Serie B SPAL vs Reggina Calcio. (Live) FSP
2:30 p.m.: UEFA Champions League (Live) UNI
3 p.m.: UEFA Champions League Paris Saint-Germain vs Real Madrid. (Live) CBS

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL WEEK 9

Guards help Middletown take charge

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

Middletown's 2016-17 girls basketball team advanced to the CCC tournament final, where it lost to Enfield. The Blue Dragons made it to the Class LL quarterfinals that year, losing to Mercy. Coach Rob Smernoff said this year's squad is as good as the team that featured center Brielle Wilborn, who went on to play at the University of Hartford. "This team is on par with that team," Smernoff said. "That team had a 6-4 center, but we have a lot more weapons from the perimeter." This year's edition was 17-2 before its game against Lewis Mills on Monday and has won 10 straight games, including a 67-36 win over Maloney (14-4) last week. Smernoff hopes to make a run in the CCC tournament, which starts Thursday with first-round games. East Hartford, Enfield, Simsbury and Southington are all expected to challenge for the championship, and defending champion Newington (18-1) is the favorite. Middletown has three top guards in seniors Tyah Petteway (18.5 ppg) and Shadae Bushay (15.6 ppg, 6.5 rpg and 5.6 spg) and sophomore Shalyn Smith (9.0 ppg, 3.8 rpg). The Blue Dragons' best win came against Simsbury on Jan. 25, when

they rallied from a seven-point halftime deficit to win 54-49. "The kids just battled through the whole second half and really stepped up," Smernoff said.

Players of the week

Abby Bradbury, Valley Regional: Bradbury had 16 points in a 49-46 win over Cromwell on Thursday.
Clara Collins, Bristol Eastern: Collins had 29 points in a 61-54 loss to Middletown last Monday and 23 points in a 55-31 win over Lewis Mills on Wednesday.
Jenna Cunlowski, Canton: Cunlowski scored 27 points in a 62-49 win over East Granby on Friday.
Jordan Dior, Suffield: Dior had 20 points, six assists and five rebounds in a win over East Granby last Monday and had 23 points, 16 rebounds and went 18 for 21 from the free-throw line, including 4-for-6 in overtime, in a 57-54 win over Ellington on Friday.
Anna Matus, South Windsor: Matus scored 26 points in a 52-49 overtime victory over Windsor on Wednesday and 19 points in a 50-41 win over Rocky Hill on Thursday.
Tristin Oberg, Windsor Locks: Oberg had 16 points, 16 rebounds and had four blocks in a 47-25 win over Rockville last Monday and scored 14 points in a 40-37 victory over Granby last Tuesday.

Tyah Petteway, Middletown: Petteway scored 21 points in a 61-54 win over Bristol Eastern last Monday and 16 points in a win over Maloney on Thursday.
Shailyn Pinkney, East Hartford: Pinkney scored 37 points in a 71-40 victory over RHAM on Friday.
Jaylice Rosario, Maloney: Rosario scored 30 points in a 50-46 win over Plainville last Monday.
Alyssa Rossignol, Enfield: Rossignol scored 36 points in a 65-59 victory over Manchester on Friday.

Teams of the week

Bolton: The Bulldogs (13-4) have won seven of their last eight games, including a 39-34 win over Coventry on Friday night.
Enfield: Enfield improved its record to 18-1 with wins over Southington and Manchester last week.
Glastonbury: The Guardians handed East Hartford its second loss, 37-32, on Wednesday night. Madison Handrahan had 16 points, including eight free throws for Glastonbury.

Storylines of the week

■ Westbrook senior Jami Sacco scored 15 points in a 40-27 loss to Old Lyme last Tuesday and got her 1,000th career point, joining her mom in the 1,000-point club at

Westbrook High. Sacco had 21 points in a 58-32 win over Hale Ray on Thursday.
■ Valley Regional came up big in a 49-46 victory over Cromwell (13-4) on Thursday. The two Shoreline teams will have to face each other again Tuesday in the second-to-last regular-season game for Valley (16-2).
■ Canton coach Brian Medeiros became the all-time winningest girls basketball at Canton with a 48-40 win over Ellington last Tuesday. As of Monday, Medeiros is 167-48 through nine seasons of coaching, and his teams have won two state titles and have four championship games appearances.

Games to watch this week

Valley Regional at Cromwell, Tuesday: The two Shoreline teams go up against each other again after Valley beat Cromwell on Thursday.
CCC tournament: First-round games start Thursday at the higher seed, and quarterfinals are Saturday at Enfield.
SCC tournament: First-round games start Thursday at the higher seed, and quarterfinals are Saturday at the higher seed.

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Windsor's Kaiden James drives against Bristol Central's Donovan Clingan in the second half at Bristol Central last Thursday. Bristol Central won 83-67, with a career-high 51 points from Clingan. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL WEEK 9

Undefeated Cromwell still cruising

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

The Cromwell boys basketball team graduated five starters and seven seniors last year, so coach John Pinone is a little surprised that his team was 15-0 before Monday's game against Morgan. "I wasn't sure what kind of camaraderie they'd have," he said. "This group hadn't really played together. We have three seniors, one junior and one sophomore. The way we've been able to play together without having that much time as a group has been a pleasant surprise." Senior Gianluca Albert and sophomore Victor Payne have led the way for the Panthers. "Those guys have been very consistent," Pinone said. "It's helpful knowing you can go in knowing you're going to get X number of points from those two." Last week, Payne had 18 points and Albert 16 in one of the team's few close wins, a 47-45 victory over East Hampton. Pinone wasn't thrilled after the game. "Honestly, we didn't deserve to win that game," he said. "East Hampton outplayed us. They were more aggressive, more physical. We were fortunate to get out of there with a

win. Hopefully we've learned from that. We're not just going to show up. We're not that good."

Players of the week

Kevin Clarke, Aerospace: Clarke had 31 points in a 61-46 win over Innovation on Friday.
Donovan Clingan, Bristol Central: Clingan came close to a triple-double in the Rams' 83-67 win over Windsor on Thursday with 51 points, 26 rebounds, nine blocks.
Matt Curtis, Northwest Catholic: Curtis scored 28 points in a 59-46 victory over Farmington on Friday.
Riley Fox, Conard: Fox scored 30 points in a 81-41 win over Bristol Eastern on Wednesday.
Trey Guest, Newington: Guest went 6 for 7 from the free-throw line in overtime and had 22 points in a 88-80 double-OT win over Hartford Public last Monday.
Simon Partyka, Valley Regional: Partyka had 12 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists in a 56-32 victory over Haddam-Killingworth last Tuesday.
Brandon Powell, Canton: Powell had 26 points in a 62-49 double-OT win over Ellington last Tuesday.
Damien Sanchez, Manchester: Sanchez scored 25 points in a 62-54 win over Enfield on Friday.

Brice Waldron, Lewis Mills: Waldron scored 10 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter as Lewis Mills beat Bloomfield 53-51 on Wednesday.
Chris Wilson, Weaver: Wilson had 20 rebounds, 12 points and four blocks in a 66-59 victory over Middletown on Friday.

Teams of the week

Canton: Canton (11-6) has won four straight games, beating Somers 45-42 last Monday and Ellington in double overtime 62-49 last Tuesday.
Lewis Mills: Lewis Mills (9-8) lost to Bristol Central last Tuesday but beat Bloomfield on Wednesday, Platt on Thursday and Housatonic on Saturday.
Manchester: The Red Hawks have also won four consecutive games behind three 20-plus point efforts from Damian Sanchez, a junior guard.

Storylines of the week

■ Clingan broke the all-time Bristol Central scoring record and city scoring record last Monday then broke his own school single-game record Thursday with his 51 points in a win over Windsor.
■ Steve Phelps, who has coached at St. Paul since 1991, got his 300th

career win with a 59-39 victory over Wolcott on Thursday night.
■ Granby (14-3) has won six straight, including victories over Windsor Locks, Northwestern and Stafford last week, and has a key NCCC matchup with SMSA (13-2) on Wednesday. The two teams have not faced each other yet this season.

Games to watch this week

East Catholic at Northwest Catholic, Tuesday: East Catholic (13-3) goes up against Northwest Catholic (15-1) in this CCC interdivisional game.
Cromwell at Morgan, Friday: The two Shoreline teams have to play each other Monday and then again on Friday. Morgan (11-5) has won seven of its last eight games as of Sunday.
Conard at RHAM, Friday: RHAM (16-1) takes on Conard (14-2), who has won four straight.
Simsbury at Bloomfield, Friday: Bloomfield (13-2) has to play four games this week, and Simsbury (12-5) is the last one.

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

REGIONAL DIGEST

Flowers takes over in OT as UHart beats Vermont

Senior guard Austin Williams had 34 points, eight rebounds and six assists to lead the University of Hartford to a 75-74 overtime victory over Vermont in an America East men's basketball game Monday night in West Hartford. It was the first conference loss of the season for the Catamounts (20-5, 12-1). Williams shot 13 for 21, including 4 of 6 from 3-point range. Moses Flowers scored 18 points for the Hawks (7-16, 5-6), who led 41-33 at the half. Ben Shungu had 21 points and 12 rebounds, and Kameron Gibson scored 18 points to lead

Vermont. Shungu hit a layup at the buzzer to force overtime, but Flowers scored all eight of the Hawks' points in the extra period for the victory.

Women

New Hampshire 61, Hartford 59: New Hampshire (6-17, 3-9 America East) overcame a 19-point halftime deficit to edge the Hawks (2-21, 2-10) in West Hartford. Sophomore Paula Maurina scored a game-high 16 points on 6-for-6 shooting for Hartford, which led 41-22 at the half. The Wildcats outscored UHart 27-6 in the third

quarter to take the lead. UNH used a 13-0 stretch to pull within one, 43-32, at the 3:09 mark. The Hawks shot 3 for 14 (21.4%) in the third after going 15 for 25 (60%) in the first half. Sophia Widmeyer hit a 3-pointer with 3 seconds left to give the Wildcats a 49-47 lead going into the fourth quarter. Widmeyer led the Wildcats with 15 points, and Amanda Torres scored 14. Carmen Villalobos finished with 12 points and seven rebounds for the Hawks. Hartford hits the road for a quick midweek stop in Orono, Maine, on Wednesday. The Hawks and Black Bears tip off at 7 p.m.

— Staff reports

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	34	22	.607	—
Boston	33	25	.569	2
Toronto	31	24	.564	2½
Brooklyn	29	27	.518	5
New York	25	32	.439	9½
SOUTHEAST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Miami	37	20	.649	—
Charlotte	29	29	.500	8½
Atlanta	26	30	.464	10½
Washington	26	30	.464	10½
Orlando	13	45	.224	24½
CENTRAL				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Chicago	36	21	.632	—
Cleveland	35	22	.614	1
Milwaukee	35	22	.614	1
Indiana	19	39	.328	17½
Detroit	12	45	.211	24

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Memphis	40	18	.690	—
Dallas	33	24	.579	6½
New Orleans	22	34	.393	17
San Antonio	22	35	.386	17½
Houston	15	40	.273	23½
NORTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Utah	35	21	.625	—
Denver	31	25	.554	4
Minnesota	30	27	.526	5½
Portland	23	34	.404	12½
Oklahoma City	17	39	.304	18
PACIFIC				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Phoenix	46	10	.821	—
Golden State	42	15	.737	4½
L.A. Clippers	28	30	.483	19
L.A. Lakers	26	31	.456	20½
Sacramento	22	36	.379	25

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Washington 103, Detroit 94
Oklahoma City at New York, late
Sacramento at Brooklyn, late
Portland at Milwaukee, late
San Antonio at Chicago, late
Toronto at New Orleans, late
Houston at Utah, late
Orlando at Denver, late
Golden State at L.A. Clippers, late

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Philadelphia, 7:30p.m.
Cleveland at Atlanta, 7:30p.m.
Dallas at Miami, 7:30p.m.
Charlotte at Minnesota, 8p.m.
Indiana at Milwaukee, 8p.m.
Memphis at New Orleans, 8p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 10p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Boston 105, Atlanta 95
Minnesota 129, Indiana 120

TENNIS

ATP DELRAY BEACH OPEN
At Delray Beach (Fla.) Stadium & Tennis Center, outdoors-hardcourt
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
John Millman d. #9 Maxime Cressy, 7-6(2), 6-7(2), 7-6(3).
Oscar Otte d. Yoshihito Nishioka, 7-6(8), 6-3.
Andreas Seppi d. Peter Gajowczyk, 7-5, 6-4.
Brandon Nakashima d. Denis Kudla, 6-1, 6-1.
Kevin Anderson vs. Steve Johnson, late

ATP RIO OPEN
At Jockey Club Brasileiro, Rio de Janeiro, outdoors-Red clay
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#7 Carlos Alcaraz d. Jaume Munar, 2-6, 6-2, 6-1.
Pedro Martinez d. Juncheng Shang, 6-3, 6-4.
Pablo Andujar d. Pablo Cuevas, 7-6(2), 7-5.
Miomir Kecmanovic d. Felipe Meligeni Rodrigues Alves, 6-3, 6-0.

ATP OPEN 13 PROVENCE
At Palais des Sports, Marseille, France, indoors-hardcourt
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#5 Ilya Ivashka d. Norbert Gombos, 7-6(5), 6-3.
Stefano Travaglia d. Henri Laaksonen, 6-2, 6-7(5), 7-6(1).
Richard Gasquet d. Mikael Ymer, 6-4, 7-5

ATP QATAR EXXONMOBIL OPEN
At Khalifa International Tennis and Squash Complex, Doha, Qatar, outdoors-hardcourt
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#5 Daniel Evans d. Egor Gerasimov, 6-4, 6-4.
#6 Karen Khachanov d. Mackenzie McDonald, 7-6(3), 6-3.
Kwon Soon Woo d. Christopher Eubanks, 7-6(6), 1-6, 6-4.
Alex Molcan d. Christopher O'Connell, 6-7(4), 7-6(6), 6-4.
Botic Van de Zandschulp d. Thomas Fabbiano, 6-2, 7-6(5).

DUBAI DUTY FREE CHAMPIONSHIPS
At Aviation Club Tennis Centre, Dubai, U.A.E., outdoors-hardcourt
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#2 Barbora Krejickova d. Caroline Garcia, 6-4, 7-6(0).
#6 Iga Swiatek d. Daria Kasatkina, 6-1, 6-2.
Jessica Pegula d. Coco Gauff, 6-4, 6-4.
Simona Halep d. Alison Riske, 6-2, 6-4.
Petra Kvitova d. Camila Giorgi, 6-2, 6-0.

ODDS

COLLEGE BASKETBALL	TUESDAY FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
at Toledo	8	Kent State	
Akron	9½	atWesternMichigan	
Michigan State	2½	at Penn State	
at Cent. Michigan	1	Eastern Michigan	
at Texas A&M	1	Florida	
Memphis	3½	at Cincinnati	
at Ohio	1½	Miami (Ohio)	
at Ball State	10	Northern Illinois	
Tulane	4	at South Florida	
Hofstra	6	at Elon	
at Florida State	4	Clemson	
at Mississippi	4½	at South Carolina	
Buffalo	6	at Bowling Green	
VCU	6	at Fordham	
at Duke	11	Wake Forest	
Texas	1½	at Oklahoma	
at Missouri State	3½	Indiana State	
at Georgia Tech	1½	NC State	
Northern Iowa	3½	at Illinois State	
Villanova	4	at Providence	
at Ohio State	13	Minnesota	
at DePaul	3½	Butler	
Wyoming	4½	at New Mexico	
Colorado	4	at Oregon State	
Arkansas	6½	at Missouri	
at Tennessee	2	Kentucky	
at Indiana	3	Iowa State	
UC Irvine	5½	at Wisconsin	
at San Diego St.	3½	Utah State	
at Nevada	15	San Jose State	

NBA FAVORITE
Cleveland 1 (221½) at Atlanta
Boston 1½ (211½) at Phila.
at Miami 4½ (210) Dallas
at New Orleans (off) Memphis
at Minnesota 7 (244) Charlotte
at Milwaukee (off) Indiana
at Phoenix 12½ (222) L.A. Clippers

NHL FAVORITE
L.A. Rams -280 Philadelphia +225
St. Louis -188 at Ottawa +155
at NY Rangers -146 Boston +122
NY Islanders -182 at Buffalo +150
Tampa Bay -255 at New Jersey +205
at Nashville -137 Washington +114
at Calgary -235 Columbus +198
at Colorado -230 Dallas +180
at Los Angeles -140 Edmonton +116

ODDS TO WIN NFL SUPER BOWL 57
Buffalo 7-1 Kansas City 7-1
L.A. Rams 9-1 Cincinnati 10-1
San Francisco 14-1 Green Bay 15-1
Dallas 16-1 Denver 18-1
Baltimore 20-1 Tampa Bay 22-1
Indianapolis 25-1 Arizona 25-1
Tennessee 25-1 L.A. Chargers 25-1
New England 35-1 New Orleans 30-1
Cleveland 35-1 Minnesota 35-1
Seattle 40-1 Philadelphia 40-1
Philadelphia 40-1 Pittsburgh 40-1
Atlanta 50-1 Carolina 50-1
Las Vegas 50-1 Washington 50-1
Chicago 65-1 N.Y. Giants 65-1
Jacksonville 80-1 Detroit 150-1
Houston 150-1 N.Y. Jets 150-1
Event: Feb. 12, 2023; source: bovada.lv
For the latest odds, go to
FanDuel Sportsbook,
https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE										
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Florida	47	32	10	5	69	194	139			
Tampa Bay	48	31	11	6	68	163	136			
Toronto	45	30	12	3	63	161	123			
Boston	46	27	16	3	57	135	130			
Detroit	49	22	21	6	50	140	167			
Ottawa	45	17	24	4	38	122	145			
Buffalo	47	15	24	8	38	125	164			
Montreal	48	8	33	7	23	106	191			
METRO.	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Pittsburgh	49	30	11	8	68	164	128			
Carolina	46	32	11	3	67	161	109			
N.Y. Rangers	47	30	13	4	64	145	122			
Washington	50	26	15	9	61	162	141			
Columbus	46	23	22	1	47	147	167			
N.Y. Islanders	42	17	19	6	40	102	116			
New Jersey	49	17	27	5	39	143	176			
Philadelphia	47	15	24	8	38	118	162			

WESTERN CONFERENCE										
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Colorado	46	34	8	4	72	190	131			
Minnesota	43	29	11	3	61	164	124			
Nashville	48	28	16	4	60	149	134			
St. Louis	46	27	14	5	59	162	129			
Dallas	46	25	19	2	52	137	141			
Winnipeg	45	20	17	8	48	130	134			
Chicago	48	17	24	7	41	117	162			
Arizona	48	12	32	4	28	108	180			
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA			
Vegas	48	28	17	3	59	162	143			
Calgary	45	26	13	6	58	152	108			
Los Angeles	47	24	16	7	55	136	130			
Anaheim	49	23	17	9	55	144	141			
Edmonton	45	24	18	3	51	146	147			
Vancouver	49	22	21	6	50	126	135			
San Jose	46	22	20	4	48	126	142			
Seattle	48	16	28	4	36	127	167			

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Detroit at Minnesota, late
Chicago at Winnipeg, late
Toronto at Seattle, late
Edmonton at San Jose, late

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Boston at N.Y. Rangers, 7p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Buffalo, 7p.m.
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7p.m.
St. Louis at Ottawa, 7p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 7p.m.
Washington at Nashville, 8p.m.
Columbus at Calgary, 9p.m.
Dallas at Colorado, 9p.m.
Edmonton at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Buffalo 5, Montreal 3
Ottawa 4, Washington 1
Pittsburgh 4, New Jersey 2
Colorado 4, Dallas 0

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED
1. Gonzaga (21-2) did not play.
Next: at Pepperdine, Wednesday.
2. Auburn (23-2) did not play.
Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Wednesday.
3. Arizona (22-2) did not play.
Next: vs. Oregon State, Thursday.
4. Kentucky (21-4) did not play.
Next: at #16 Tennessee, Tuesday.
5. Purdue (22-4) did not play.
Next: at Northwestern, Wednesday.
6. Kansas (20-4) vs. Oklahoma State.
Next: at West Virginia, Saturday.
7. Baylor (21-4) did not play.
Next: at #11 Texas Tech, Wednesday.
8. Providence (21-2) did not play.
Next: vs. #10 Villanova, Tuesday.
9. Duke (21-4) did not play. **Next:** vs. Wake Forest, Tuesday.
10. Villanova (19-6) did not play.
Next: at #8 Providence, Tuesday.
11. Texas Tech (19-6) did not play.
Next: vs. #7 Baylor, Wednesday.
12. Illinois (18-6) did not play.
Next: at Rutgers, Wednesday.
13. UCLA (17-5) did not play.
Next: vs. Washington State, Thursday.
14. Houston (20-4) did not play.
Next: vs. UCF, Thursday.
15. Wisconsin (19-5) did not play.
Next: at Indiana, Tuesday.
16. Tennessee (18-6) did not play.
Next: vs. #4 Kentucky, Tuesday.
17. Southern Cal (21-4) did not play.
Next: vs. Washington, Thursday.
18. Ohio State (15-6) did not play.
Next: at Rutgers, Wednesday.
19. Michigan State (18-6) did not play.
Next: at Penn State, Tuesday.
20. Texas (18-7) did not play.
Next: at Oklahoma, Tuesday.
21. Murray State (24-2) did not play.
Next: vs. Austin Peay, Thursday.
22. Wyoming (21-3) did not play.
Next: at New Mexico, Tuesday.
23. Arkansas (19-6) did not play.
Next: at Missouri, Tuesday.
24. UConn (17-7) did not play.
Next: vs. Seton Hall, Wednesday.
25. Alabama (16-9) did not play.
Next: vs. Mississippi State, Wednesday.

MONDAY'S SCORES
EAST
American 60, Holy Cross 54
Colgate 69, Lafayette 61
Delaware 81, James Madison 60
Fairfield 80, Canisius 76, OT
Hartford 75, Vermont 74, OT
Howard 77, Md.-Eastern Shore 71
Keystone 77, Bryn Athyn 68
Lehigh 86, Bucknell 77
Marist 77, Niagara 70
New Hampshire 68, UMB 62
St. Bonaventure 83, Saint Louis 79
W. New England 91, Pratt 63
W. Virginia St. 110, Greenville St. 93
Worcester St. 95, Bridgewater (MA) 70
SOUTH
Austin Peay 62, E. Illinois 54
Coll. of Charleston 79, Drexel 75
Davidson 72, Duquesne 61
Morehouse 78, Fort Valley St. 70
UCF 76, Tulsa 67
UNC-Wilmington 80, Wm. & Mary 73, OT
Virginia Tech 62, Virginia 53
MIDWEST
Kansas St. 78, West Virginia 73

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED
1. South Carolina (23-1) did not play.
Next: at Auburn, Thursday.
2. Stanford (21-3) did not play.
Next: at Oregon State, Friday.
3. Louisville (22-2) did not play.
Next: at #24 North Carolina, Thursday.
4. NC State (23-3) did not play.
Next: vs. Wake Forest, Thursday.
5. Indiana (18-4) lost to Nebraska 72-55.
Next: vs. Northwestern, Thursday.
6. Iowa State (21-3) did not play.
Next: at #14 Texas, Wednesday.
7. Baylor (19-5) did not play.
Next: vs. TCU, Wednesday.
8. Arizona (18-4) did not play.
Next: at Washington, Friday.
9. Michigan (20-4) did not play.
Next: vs. #13 Maryland, Sunday.
10. UConn (17-5) did not play.
Next: at Xavier, Friday.
11. LSU (21-4) did not play.
Next: at Mississippi State, Thursday.
12. Tennessee (21-4) did not play.
Next: at Alabama, Thursday.
13. Maryland (18-6) at #22 Iowa.
Next: vs. #18 Ohio State, Thursday.
14. Texas (17-6) did not play.
Next: vs. #6 Iowa State, Wednesday.
15. Oklahoma (20-4) did not play.
Next: vs. Texas Tech, Wednesday.
16. Georgia Tech (19-6) did not play.
Next: at #19 Notre Dame, Thursday.
17. Florida (19-6) beat Auburn 83-77.
Next: vs. Arkansas, Thursday.
18. Ohio State (18-4) at Illinois.
Next: at #13 Maryland, Thursday.
19. Notre Dame (19-6) did not play.
Next: at #16 Georgia Tech, Thursday.
20. BYU (21-2) did not play.
Next: vs. Loyola Marymount, Thursday.
21. Georgia (17-7) did not play.
Next: vs. Missouri, Thursday.
22. Iowa (16-6) vs. #13 Maryland.
Next: at #5 Indiana, Saturday.
23. Virginia Tech (19-6) did not play.
Next: at Syracuse, Thursday.
24. North Carolina (19-5) did not play.
Next: vs. #3 Louisville, Thursday.
25. Florida Gulf Coast (22-2) did not play.
Next: vs. Kennesaw St., Thursday.

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE
TUESDAY'S MATCH
Man United vs. Brighton, 3:15p.m.

WINTER OLYMPICS

MEDAL COUNT				
69 of 109total events				
NATION	G	S	B	TOT
Norway	9	5	7	21
ROC	4	6	8	18
United States	7	6	3	16
Germany	8	5	2	15
Austria	5	6	4	15
Canada	1	4	10	15
Netherlands	6	4	2	12
Sweden	5	3	3	11
France	3	6	2	11
Italy	2	5	4	11
Japan	2	4	5	11
China	5	3	2	10
Switzerland	3	0	5	8
Slovenia	2	3	2	7
South Korea	1	3	1	5
Australia	1	2	1	4
Finland	1	1	2	4
Hungary	1	0	2	3
Czech Republic	1	0	1	2
Belarus	0	2	0	2
New Zealand	1	0	0	1
Slovakia	1	0	0	1
Spain	0	1	0	1
Belgium	0	0	1	1
Latvia	0	0	1	1
Poland	0	0	1	1

MONDAY'S MEDALISTS
BOBSLEIGH, Women's Monobob
G: Kaillie Humphries, United States
S: Elana Meyers Taylor, United States
B: Christine de Bruin, Canada

FREESTYLE SKIING, Women's Aerials
G: Mengtao Xu, China
S: Hanna Huskova, Belarus
B: Megan Nick, United States

FIGURE SKATING, Ice Dance
G: France (Gabriella Papadakis, Guillaume Cizeron)
S: ROC (Victoria Sinitsina, Nikita Katsalapov)
B: U.S. (Madison Hubbell, Zachary Donohue)

SKI JUMPING, Men's Team
G: Austria (Stefan Kraft, Daniel Huber, Jan Hoerl, Manuel Fettner)
S: Slovenia (Lovro Kos, Cene Prevc, Timi Zajc, Peter Prevc)
B: Germany (Constantin Schmid, Stephan Leyhe, Markus Eisenbichler, Karl Geiger)

MONDAY'S SCORES

CURLING
Men
Japan 10, China 2
Canada 11, ROC 5
U.S. 8, South Korea 6
Sweden 6, Switzerland 5 (Extra Ends)
Canada 7, Britain 3
South Korea 10, Japan 5
Denmark 10, ROC 5
Canada 7, Italy 3
Denmark 6, Norway 5 (Extra Ends)
Sweden 7, ROC 5
Britain 6, Switzerland 5
Women
Japan 10, China 2
Canada 11, ROC 5
U.S. 8, South Korea 6
Sweden 6, Switzerland 5 (Extra Ends)
Canada 7, Britain 3
South Korea 10, Japan 5
Denmark 10, ROC 5
Men's Round Robin
Russian Olympic vs. Norway, late
Canada vs. China, late
Switzerland vs. USA, late
Sweden vs. Denmark, late

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Wednesday: vs. Seton Hall
at Gampel, 8:30 p.m., CBSN

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Friday: at Xavier,
7 p.m., SNY

UConn
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UConn's Tyrese Martin scored all 17 of his points in the second half, hitting four of six 3-pointers, as the Huskies held off St. John's on Sunday. **SETH WENIG/AP**

Huskies

from Page 1

Tyrese Martin's hot shooting

Maybe Martin just likes the second half of games better. After a scoreless first half, he scored 17 points in the second half on 6-for-10 shooting. It was the second time this season he's followed a quiet first half with a great second half. The guard made three 3s in a little over two minutes to keep UConn in the game when the offense struggled. His 3-point shooting this season has been a little bit of a revelation for the Huskies. He's shooting 45.2 % from 3 after shooting 32% the previous season. He shot 4-for-6 from 3 Sunday. The Huskies rank No. 88 in NCAA Division I in 3-point percentage with 35.2%, according to KenPom, so they need Martin's shooting to continue to be at this level.

The fatigue is real

The Huskies struggled to create separation, and some part of that can be attributed to tiredness. All the games played in a short period seemed to affect players. UConn missed several open shots. There were jumpers without much lift and low shooting percentages, making for a rough offensive game.

"We had so many quality shots today," Hurley said. "Maybe it's a little bit of fatigue. I think just (playing) four games and we didn't move very well out there."

UConn played to its identity to finish

At 7:46 of the second, St. John's Stef Smith hit a 3 to put his team up 55-48. From there, UConn went on a 15-5 run to close out the game. The Huskies played great defense

spurred on by a big crowd of UConn fans that seemed to inject energy into the players to come back and hold on to win the game.

Nothing came easy for the Red Storm, and this was a big-time close for the Huskies, who have often faltered in the clutch.

UConn will have days where the offense is good or bad, but the consistency needs to remain on the defensive end for the team to advance far in the Big East tournament. St. John's plays with one of the fastest paces in the nation but was limited to just six fast-break points all game — and none late.

Hurley said he was pleased with how his team responded late.

"It was just the defense," he said. "You come in here and hold them to 33.8% shooting and 23.8% from 3. We outrebounded by 11 rebounds (51-40). You play elite defense, and you rebound the way we did in the second half; it's going to be hard to beat."

UConn

from Page 1

initiate UConn's 12-0 fourth-quarter run to put the game away, it was hard for onlookers to believe that the 5-foot-11 guard from Virginia is just a freshman, let alone playing in her 11th collegiate game.

"It's been remarkable what she's been able to do in such a short period of time," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said.

It's not as if Fudd's talent was ever in question. Her foot injury, Auriemma says, hindered her early in the season before she was shut down for 11 games to let it heal. Once back on the court, Fudd had a typical freshman inclination to play passively and defer to her teammates, whether that be Bueckers, the upperclassmen or Ducharme, which could frustrate Auriemma. Given the caliber of player she is, he wanted Fudd to have the ball in her hands.

By the time Fudd made her return at DePaul on Jan. 26, Ducharme had emerged as UConn's go-to scorer in the absence of Bueckers. Fudd (15 points) had a memorable outing in Chicago, though the next two games were relatively quiet for her. She had an off shooting night at Providence, then at Creighton didn't get going until the fourth quarter.

It's impossible to know what would've happened had Ducharme — who has led the Huskies in scoring at 16.3 points per game in the absence of Bueckers — not been sidelined with a head injury following the Creighton game. Fudd spoke of needing to be more aggressive even before Ducharme's injury. But once Ducharme went down, Fudd became exponentially more critical to the Huskies, and she knew it.

She was the star of the show against Tennessee, the Huskies' first game without Ducharme, and for the most part hasn't looked back.

"Just knowing that my team needs me," Fudd said Sunday. "I wouldn't say that it has to be on me, but just knowing that it's important for me to keep attacking, not necessarily scoring but attacking because then it makes the defense have to help off and it either gives me an open shot or my teammates an open shot."

The numbers say it all, too: In Fudd's first three games back from injury, where Ducharme also played, Ducharme took 12.3 shots per game on average, while Fudd was averaging seven. In the four games Ducharme has been out, Fudd is averaging 15.5 field goal attempts per game. All along, she's kept up her trademark efficiency, shooting 50% from both inside and outside the arc.

In some ways, this could be the toughest stretch Fudd faces in that she's demanding so much defensive attention without Bueckers and Ducharme also on the floor to make opponents pick their poison. DePaul coach Doug Bruno described how his team's game plan in their second meeting with UConn was to contain Fudd and make the Huskies' bigs beat them. It largely worked, as Fudd finished with just four points, while Aaliyah Edwards and Dorka Juhász combined for 41.

But part of what Auriemma loves about Fudd is that she can make her presence felt beyond scoring. He complimented her defense against DePaul, and has praised her passing and rebounding. And while her 3-point shooting is the most well-known part of her game, she's increasingly demonstrated she can be just as potent with her dribble pull-up or driving to the hoop. Fudd's aggressiveness in getting to the rim then leads to more scoring opportunities for her teammates.

Fudd and Juhász in particular seem to be developing some great chemistry, as their two-man game shined against Marquette. While senior center Olivia Nelson-Ododa has been missed in many ways while sitting out with a groin injury, as a proven 3-point threat Juhász can pick and pop as defenses are preoccupied with Fudd, adding a dimension to UConn's offense.

"I've been much better at being more aggressive, but just with teams playing me different ways, it makes it so much easier, especially when I'm setting screens and teams are guarding me different. They'll mess up and someone ends up being wide open," Fudd said.

Fudd's maturity isn't just apparent in her decision-making. She has a knack for hitting shots when UConn needs them, whether in the fourth quarter against DePaul

and Tennessee, to spur a comeback attempt against Villanova or to put the game away against Marquette.

Auriemma praised his team's improvement in fourth quarters recently, and that correlates directly with Fudd's return. The first 15 games of the season UConn averaged 15.6 fourth-quarter points. Since Fudd returned to the rotation that number is 22.6. She's most productive in the fourth, averaging 7.3 points, which makes you wonder if some games would have turned out differently had she been healthy for the bulk of UConn's nonconference slate.

After Fudd's onslaught against Tennessee, Auriemma provided a scary reminder to the rest of the women's basketball world. At that point only eight games into her collegiate basketball career, if this is the worst or least experienced version of Fudd, imagine what she can do in a year or two or three.

Perhaps her biggest area of growth in the short term, at least in Auriemma's eyes, is for her to take a page from Ducharme's book and look to score anytime she touches the ball.

"She's a very particular kind of kid," Auriemma said. "She's very much a perfectionist and wants everything to be done regimented, and when things are kind of a little bit cockeyed, she gets a little bit [off-kilter]."

Whether it was a result of necessity or finally something just clicked, Auriemma's message seems to be getting through to Fudd.

"And I think the fact that she feels like 'I don't have any choice. I can't just show up and say, OK, well I'll wait for my turn' [has helped]," Auriemma said. "I don't like kids like that."

Not only are she and the rest of the team benefitting now, but once Ducharme and Bueckers return, Fudd's mindset shift and comfortability will better serve the Huskies and their championship goals long term.

"I'm trying to break her of everything having to be perfect and getting down on herself when it's not," Auriemma said. "She's pretty special when it comes to playing basketball. So I don't ever want her to doubt herself."

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KNICKS

Thibodeau: No regrets on Barrett's garbage-time injury

By Stefan Bondy
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Knicks coach Tom Thibodeau said he has no regrets about leaving RJ Barrett in the game at the end of a blow-out last week in Denver, when the young forward sprained an ankle. He has since missed three games, including Monday night against the Thunder.

"No. You don't work backward," Thibodeau said. "There's different points. You look at the score and the time. And if you make a run, then you take a shot at it. So that's what we did."

Barrett stepped on the ankle of Nuggets guard Davon Reed with about 25 seconds remaining and Knicks trailing by 15. He was the only starter in the game for either team, but Thibodeau again redirected the question to

why he subbed in Barrett for the last time with about four minutes left, rather than why he didn't take him out down the stretch.

"The deficit got to 13. If it stayed at 20, I probably wouldn't have brought the starters back," Thibodeau said. (The Knicks were actually down 15 when Barrett was reinserted.) "They were going to sit the quarter. But once you get it to 13, you (might) get it to 10. You know, four minutes to go. You want to take a shot. We had RJ at power forward. So if you get a run there, you get it inside 10 you have a good chance to win."

Barrett has shed his walking boot, according to Thibodeau, but it seems unlikely he'll play the last game before the All-Star break on Wednesday against the Nets. Thibodeau has labeled Barrett day-to-day since the injury occurred a week ago.

NETS

Simmons given time to get in game condition

By Matthew Roberson
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — As the old adage goes, if you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all.

That's been the Ben Simmons game plan for most of this season, as the three-time All-Star was clearly at odds with his employers in Philadelphia but remained mostly silent about it. Now that he's the latest 25-year-old Australian to move to Brooklyn, the next step for Simmons

is to actually play in an NBA game again. He was at Nets' shoot-around at Barclays Center on Monday morning, underwent physical assessment tests and graced the court during pregame, but he'll have to clear several more hurdles before anyone is comfortable letting him loose.

"That's on the performance team," coach Steve Nash said of Simmons' availability. "He's been in a long period of non-NBA activity. We haven't really seen him."

Olympics

from Page 1

if the Russian team is disqualified in a doping case.

In retirement, Hubbell and Donohue plan to go on tour and then start their own figure skating schools.

"We're both going to start working toward building our own schools and coaching and supporting the sport and new athletes and new generations," Hubbell said.

Chock and Bates skated a personal best with their avant-garde intergalactic space love story set to electronic music by Daft Punk, but were ultimately unable to overcome the deficit from their disappointing rhythm dance performance.

"It was just a shift in my mindset, and just staying very present in the present moment," Chock said. "And sometimes you just have harder days than others, and I accept that."

Chock and Bates said they haven't decided on what's next

for them in the sport.

The Olympic ice dance gold went to French pair Gabriella Papadakis and Guillaume Cizeron, who broke their own world record to win — a feat that narrowly eluded them four years ago at the Pyeongchang Games. Victoria Sinitsina and Nikita Katsalapov of the Russian team won silver.

For Hubbell and Donohue, the fact that their last Olympic performance was on Valentine's Day was fitting, too, because the duo dated for more than two years after they started teaming up professionally in 2011. They decided to continue working together after the breakup and now have three Olympic medals to show for it after winning team bronze in Pyeongchang.

Hubbell is now engaged to Spanish ice dancer Adrian Diaz. They plan to wed in June. Diaz and his partner, Olivia Smart, placed eighth at the Beijing Games.

American teammates Kaitlin Hawayek and Jean-Luc Baker finished 11th.



Madison Hubbell and Connecticut native Zachary Donohue perform their routine in the ice dance competition Monday, earning a bronze medal in Beijing. **BERNAT ARMANGUE/AP**

Did you know?

Most accidents during snow events occur when less than 2" of snow has accumulated on roadways.

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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Humphries wins 1st monobob gold



Kaillie Humphries crossed the finish line, jumped from her sled and hoisted an American flag that someone had just handed her into the frosty air. “U-S-A! U-S-A!” she chanted. Four years ago, nobody would have seen that coming. The former Canadian bobsled heroine is an Olympic gold medalist for the third time — and for the first time, as a U.S. citizen. Humphries, 36, is monobob’s first Olympic champion, finishing off a surprisingly easy win at the Beijing Games on Monday. She completed four runs in 4 minutes, 19.27 seconds to lead a gold-silver finish for the U.S. women’s program, with teammate Elana Meyers Taylor placing second. Humphries became the first woman to win Olympic gold for two different countries. She also is the first woman to win three golds in bobsleding, with a chance for a fourth later this week in the two-person event. Humphries became a citizen in December. Meyers Taylor, 37, is now a four-time medalist, giving her the most in U.S. bobsled history and tying her for sixth most in U.S. Winter Olympic history.

76ers: Harden out until after break



James Harden is in Philadelphia. But he and the 76ers will wait a little longer for his much-anticipated on-court debut. Harden, the 10-time All-Star and former MVP who was acquired as part of last week’s blockbuster trade that also sent Ben Simmons to the Nets, practiced with his new team for the first time Monday. But the team said Harden will be out through the All-Star break, including Sunday’s All-Star Game in Cleveland, while continuing to nurse a hamstring injury that kept him out of his final six games with the Nets before the trade. Harden did some off-the-dribble and spot-up shooting during the portion of practice that was open to the media. Veteran big man Paul Millsap, whom the 76ers also acquired in the trade, was also at practice. The 76ers have two more games before the break, at home against the Celtics on Tuesday and at the defending-champion Bucks on Thursday. Their first two games after the break are on the road against the Timberwolves and Knicks, before a home game against the Knicks on March 2.

Eichel set to make Knights debut



Jack Eichel will make his debut for the Golden Knights when they host the Avalanche on Wednesday night. The three-time All-Star center hasn’t played an NHL game since early March in 2021 for the Sabres because of a herniated disk in his neck. “I’m sure there will be a lot of emotions Wednesday,” Eichel said Monday. “I already started feeling them. It’s been a long time. (It’s) been the biggest layoff I’ve ever had since I started playing, so I’m trying to be realistic with my expectations.” Eichel was acquired by the Knights in a trade with the Sabres on Nov. 4 and eight days later had artificial disk replacement surgery, a procedure that had never been done on an NHL player. The 25-year-old began practicing with the Knights on Jan. 11 and was cleared for full contact Feb. 7. Eichel scored 18 points (two goals, 16 assists) in 21 games for the Sabres last season before sitting out the final 33. Selected by the Sabres with the No. 2 pick in the 2015 draft, Eichel has recorded 355 points (139 goals, 216 assists) in 375 career games. —News services



QB Matthew Stafford and coach Sean McVay celebrate after the Rams’ Super Bowl victory Sunday. MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

SUPER BOWL 56

No time like the present

Rams’ big moves paid off with Lombardi Trophy

By Rob Maaddi
Associated Press

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — Built to win now, the Rams delivered a shiny, new trophy for Tinseltown. Pressure? What pressure? With LeBron James dancing to the beat during a halftime show featuring hip-hop legends Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg and Eminem, and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Magic Johnson and Clayton Kershaw sitting in a crowd filled with Walk of Fame stars, Matthew Stafford, Cooper Kupp and Aaron Donald joined L.A.’s fraternity of champions. Stafford tossed a 1-yard touchdown pass to Kupp with 1:25 remaining and the Rams rallied to beat the Bengals 23-20 on Sunday night to win the Super Bowl at home in their glitzy, \$5 billion stadium built by owner Stan Kroenke. They had no other choice, really. The organization went all-in to win it all, trading a slew of draft picks to acquire Stafford and Von Miller in 2021 and Jalen Ramsey in 2019. They also signed Odell Beckham Jr. during the season. The Rams haven’t had a first-round pick since selecting Jared Goff No. 1 overall in 2016, and they don’t own another one until 2024. But they now have a Vince Lombardi Trophy to show for it. “I think it’s a lot of good decisions stacked on one another,” coach Sean McVay said. “I’m just really pleased to be associ-

ated with a group that is not afraid to shoot their shot and take chances on things we feel like is in the best interest of the football team. “There are a lot of rolled eyes at us, but we believe in those things and we’re going to do things that we think are in the best interest.” McVay pointed to general manager Les Snead, COO Kevin Demoff and vice president Tony Pastoors being in sync. “Whether it’s myself, Les, Kevin, Tony Pastoors and it all starts with Mr. Kroenke and his trust and willingness,” he said. “Then the players being able to on-board the guys in the right way, it’s sweet and I’m really happy for these guys.” The Rams became the second team to play a Super Bowl in their stadium, following the Buccaneers in 2021. Both did it with veteran quarterbacks in the first season with their team. The Bucs went all-in, signing Tom Brady, Rob Gronkowski, Leonard Fournette and Antonio Brown. They got their title. So did the Rams, who eliminated Brady and the Bucs in the divisional round after wasting a 27-3 lead. Stafford hadn’t won a playoff game in 12 seasons with the Lions before leading the Rams to four postseason wins, including three straight by three points. “I love playing this game for the competition, for the relationships, for the hard times, for the good times, for all of it,” Stafford said. “This game can teach us so much as people. I get to go to work with people from all walks of

life and come together and go for one goal, and for 12 years that goal wasn’t reached. “It tore me up inside, but I knew I could keep playing and try to find a way and the fact that we reached that goal today is so special.” Fittingly, Donald preserved the lead by pressuring Joe Burrow into throwing an incomplete pass on fourth down in the final minute as the Bengals were trying to drive for a tying field goal. The Rams’ dominant defensive line had seven sacks, six in the second half. Donald and Miller led the way with two each. “It means everything. This organization drafted me eight years ago to have an opportunity to help bring this here,” Donald said. “To start in St. Louis and have our struggles and then come to L.A. and be able to build something special, bring in Coach McVay — one thing I told him when he got here, before I had the opportunity to play for him and get to know him, I told him as long as he’s here, I want to continue to be a part of this organization and help build on the legacy. We’re building a legacy. Legacies are built not from individual stats, but from team success. The ultimate goal is to be a world champion, I’ve been saying that for the past few years. “To finally get the opportunity to feel this, be living in it right now, this time, this moment — it’s hard to put it in words right now.” Even losing Beckham to a knee injury wasn’t going to stop the Rams. Their offense slowed down after Beckham went down, but Stafford and Kupp came through in the end. Just like Hollywood scripted it.

NFL

After short break, back to business

By Barry Wilner | Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The NFL never stops making news. Even after the Super Bowl, pro football doesn’t fade from view. Next up is the scouting combine in two weeks, followed by free agency in mid-March and key owners’ meetings at the end of that month. Then the draft in late April, this year in Las Vegas, where even the fountains at Bellagio will play a role. Follow that with OTAs and minicamps, and before Rams fans have exhausted their celebrations of winning the Lombardi Trophy, training camps are opening. All of that drawing the kind of attention every other sport envies. “If you look what’s happening to ratings around the league, more and more people are watching NFL football because of the quality of the game,” Commissioner Roger Goodell said last week. “We’ve had extraordinary games this year with an extraordinary season, and that content is even more valuable. “So to me, it’s really focusing on how do we share our game with more people and build that.” But first:

Flores lawsuit

Possibly the most headline-grabbing topic will be former Dolphins coach Brian Flores’ lawsuit against the NFL and its teams. The league has no choice but to investigate Flores’ allegations of racism and being offered money to tank games by Dolphins owner Stephen Ross. The far-reaching implications here could and should overshadow any other news in the offseason. “Integrity of the game is obviously an important element, just as making sure we have the right culture in our organizations, across the league and at clubs,” Goodell said. “But we’re going to look into that and we’ll make sure that if there were violations that they won’t be tolerated.”

Commanders’ culture

Recent statements to Congress by people claiming the Washington team, newly named Commanders, had a culture rife with inappropriate behavior and mistreatment, has reinvigorated demands for change at owner Dan Snyder’s franchise. The league will continue to be pressured to reveal specific information from investigations of the team.

Scouting combine

A full-fledged combine is planned for Indianapolis as the league relies on its pandemic protocols that seemed to work well in 2021. Teams have been warned that they could lose a draft pick and face significant fines if club representatives conduct themselves unprofessionally in interviews with draft prospects. That includes asking inappropriate questions. “All clubs should ensure that prospective draft picks are afforded a respectful and professional NFL environment — one that is consistent with state and federal law and our shared commitment to respect, diversity and inclusion,” the NFL told the 32 clubs in January.

Free agency

Will it be wild? Is Patrick Mahomes fun to watch? And no, the Chiefs quarterback won’t be taking part in free agency for the rest of this decade. But there always are plenty of big names (and huge money) involved when the “legal tampering” period begins March 14. Signings can become official March 16. Potential free agents include Packers All-Pro WR Davante Adams, Bucs WR Chris Godwin, Chargers WR Mike Williams, Saints tackle Terron Armstead and Commanders tackle Brandon Scherff on offense. Defensively, Rams LB Von Miller, CBs Stephon Gilmore of the Panthers and J.C. Jackson of the Patriots, and edge rushers Chandler Jones of the Cardinals and Harold Landry III of the Titans top the list.

Owners’ meetings

In late March, owners will consider several issues, notably whether to make rules changes for special teams given data showing kick plays are the game’s most dangerous. Updates and moderations to the Rooney Rule are possible. There also could be changes to some media rights, most significantly the Sunday Ticket deal that is up for bids after next season.

What happens in Vegas ...

Won’t stay in Vegas. The draft is there, and fans from 32 franchises will be entranced by whatever their team does. Given the locale, many of those fans could be on The Strip for the proceedings as Sin City attempts to match or surpass what Nashville achieved in 2019. With no college quarterbacks jumping to the front of the line — at least not yet — intrigue about what the Jaguars will do with the first pick again will be high. There was no chance the Jags would trade out of getting Clemson QB Trevor Lawrence last year. This time, who knows?

WEATHER

TUESDAY



SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

WEDNESDAY



SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

THURSDAY



SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

FRIDAY



SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

SATURDAY



SUNRISE NOON SUNSET

Mostly sunny and very chilly. West wind at 5 to 15 mph.

HIGH 30°
LOW 14°

Partly sunny, breezy and milder.

HIGH 44°
LOW 39°

Considerable cloudiness, breezy and unseasonably mild. Periods of rain at night.

HIGH 58°
LOW 45°

Lingering morning rain ending, then becoming partly sunny, breezy. Turning colder in the afternoon.

HIGH 52°
LOW 20°

Partly to mostly sunny, breezy and very cool.

HIGH 41°
LOW 23°

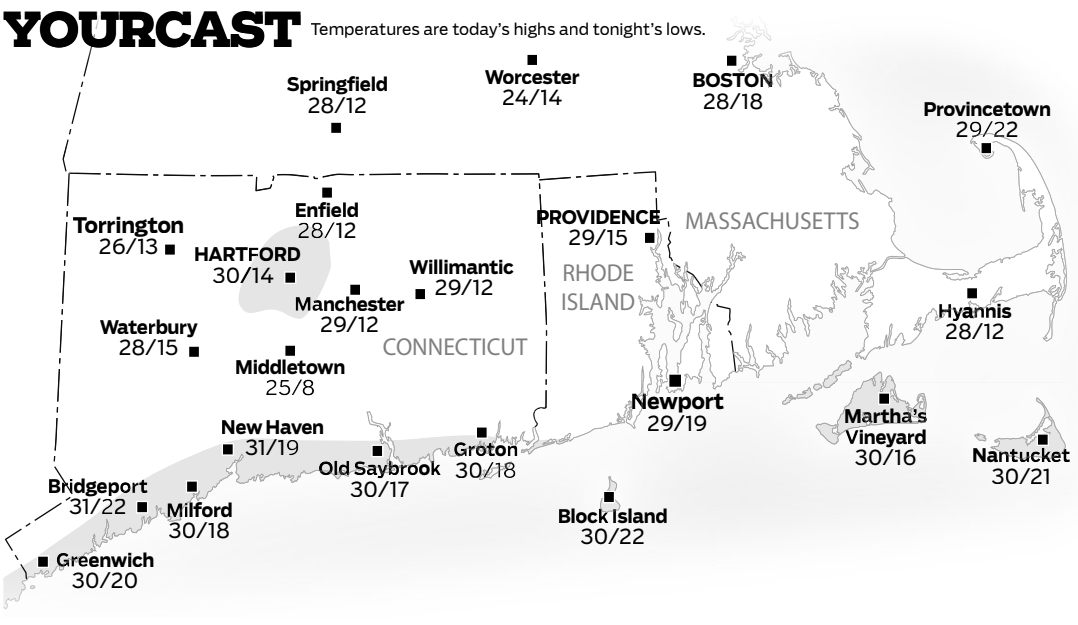
CONNECTICUT WEATHER

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courant.com/weather

YOURCAST



OUTLOOK

High pressure will bring mostly sunny skies and very chilly temperatures on Tuesday with highs ranging from the mid-20s to the lower 30s. The wind will be west at 5 to 15 mph. Temperatures will turn significantly milder in the coming days with highs in the mid-40s on Wednesday and then in the upper 50s Thursday. A frontal system will produce periods of rain Thursday night and Friday morning before colder air works into the state. Temperatures won't be as cold as this current cold snap, just seasonable. Temperatures will turn milder once again by early next week.

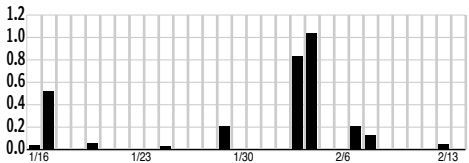
-Gary Lessor

ALMANAC

Precipitation In Inches	Total	Normal
Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)	0.00	0.11
Month to date	2.26	1.48
Total this year	4.09	4.76
Snowfall In Inches	Total	Normal
Yesterday (by 4 p.m.)	0.0	0.5
Total this year	21.3	34.1

Precipitation, temperature at Windsor Locks

30-day Precipitation History In Inches



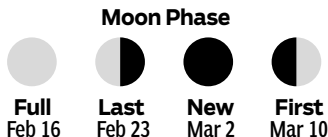
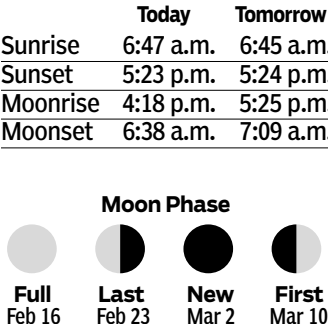
Tides	High	Low	Temp.
N.L. State Pier	8:50 a.m. 8:55 p.m.	2:26 a.m. 3:05 p.m.	37°
Saybrook Jetty	9:51 a.m. 10:06 p.m.	3:19 a.m. 3:58 p.m.	37°
Connecticut River at Portland	12:09 a.m. 12:34 p.m.	7:05 a.m. 7:44 p.m.	36°
Madison	10:02 a.m. 10:26 p.m.	3:43 a.m. 4:16 p.m.	36°
New Haven	10:22 a.m. 10:46 p.m.	4:07 a.m. 4:40 p.m.	37°
Stamford	10:26 a.m. 10:50 p.m.	4:21 a.m. 4:54 p.m.	38°

River Stage at Hartford: 4.23 feet at 6:30 p.m.

Boating Weather	L.I. Sound W	L.I. Sound E	B.I. Sound
Wind	WSunny W, 10-15	WSunny W, 10-15	MSunny W, 10-15
Seas	1 ft.	1-2 ft.	2-3 ft.

Air Quality Forecast For Today

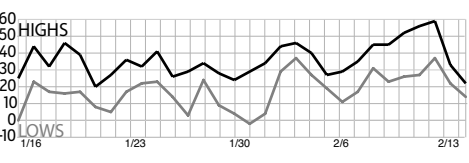
Good	Low	-2°
25	2	-2°
Air Quality Today	Ultraviolet Index Today	Wind Chill Today
Sunrise 6:47 a.m.	Today 6:45 a.m.	Tomorrow 5:23 p.m.
Sunset 5:23 p.m.	Today 5:24 p.m.	Tomorrow 4:18 p.m.
Moonrise 4:18 p.m.	Today 5:25 p.m.	Tomorrow 6:38 a.m.
Moonset 6:38 a.m.	Today 7:09 a.m.	



Temperature	High	Low
Monday	22 at 3:48 p.m.	14 at 8:21 a.m.
Normal for date	38	20
Record for date	55 in 2011	-12 in 2016
A year ago	35	26
Range this year	59	-2

Heating Degree Days	Season	Normal	Last Season
For July 1 - Feb 14	3520	3865	3614

30-day Temperature History



Atmosphere	High	Low
Barometer	30.25 at 12 a.m.	29.97 at 3 a.m.
Dew point	8° at 2 a.m.	-14° at 3 p.m.

AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND

Bangor	21 -1 PC
Burlington	20 6 PC
Caribou	13 -10 PC
Concord	24 5 PC
Montpelier	16 -2 PC
Mt. Wash.	-8 -11 PC
Portland	27 8 PC
Woods Hole	29 18 S

NATION

Albany	29 11 PC
Albuquerque	62 34 PC
Atlantic City	35 18 S

WORLD

Nashville	63 43 S
New Orleans	67 54 PC
New York	32 27 PC
Okla. City	68 51 PC
Omaha	56 31 PC
Orlando	74 57 PC
Pittsburgh	33 25 PC
Raleigh	51 31 S
St. Louis	59 46 S
Salt Lake City	50 31 C
San Antonio	71 60 PC
San Diego	60 50 SH
San Juan	85 74 SH
Tucson	78 48 PC
Budapest	56 40 C
Buenos Aires	93 72 S
Cairo	66 47 PC
Cancun	77 70 C
Dubai	81 64 PC
Dublin	46 39 SH
Helsinki	45 37 SH
Edinburgh	37 34 R
Hong Kong	68 61 PC
Istanbul	48 37 PC
Jerusalem	54 43 PC
Johannesburg	79 61 T
Singapore	91 75 T

MONDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

BOYS BASKETBALL

NCCC	SMSA 84, EAST WINDSOR 51
EAST WINDSOR (3-13):	Josh Maddox 8-3-22, Eric Wyse 2-0-4, Nick Parakillas 0-3-3, Ryan Lee 7-0-19, Alex Giannuzzi 0-1-1, Juelz Torres 1-0-2. Totals 197-51.
SMSA (14-2):	King Shaw 11-0-22, Niziyah Bogar 3-0-6, Abijah Miller 3-1-7, Kemani Thompson 6-0-13, Daniel Hernandez 7-5-19, Zahkeer Kerr 1-0-2, Aston Whittingham 3-0-8, Tormal Tillman 2-1-7. Totals 37-84.
EW	4 13 10 20 - 51
S	20 19 28 17 - 84
Note:	Miller had 14 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 blocks and Shaw had 4 assists, 3 steals.
SOMERS 65, ELLINGTON 54	

Shoreline	HALE-RAY 57, PORTLAND 49
CROMWELL 60, MORGAN 50	
CTC	GOODWIN TECH 57, WOLCOTT TECH 54
CRAL	INNOVATION 62, CIVIC LEADERSHIP 35
NVL	ST. PAUL 72, WOLCOTT 38
Others	PRINCE TECH 65, WEAVER 60
PRINCE TECH (13-3):	Jordan Jackson 7-4-20, Kanye Foster 3-3-9, Jovan Johnson 1-0-2, Dajon Nelson 7-7-24, Troy Stewart 2-0-4, Jordan Iverson 2-0-4, Sincere Garcia 1-0-2. Totals 23-14-65.
WEAVER (13-4):	Christian Walters 1-2-4, Damar Artis 2-3-7, Jamir Hicks 1-0-3, Madden Cupe 2-0-4, Nazir Nowlin 8-0-16, Chris Wilson 10-4-24, John Paul Jones 1-0-2. Totals 24-9-60.
PT	9 27 15 14 - 65
W	11 19 14 16 - 60
Note:	Wilson had a double-double with 11 rebounds, 4 blocks.
EAST CATHOLIC 72, BASSICK 60	
BLOOMFIELD 76, MLC 43	
E.O. SMITH 46, STAFFORD 38	
OLD SAYBROOK 68, MONTVILLE 59	

GIRLS BASKETBALL

CCC-North	NEWINGTON 56, WETHERSFIELD 38
WETHERSFIELD (10-8):	Vanessa Venditti 7-0-19, Olivia Barnett 2-1-5, Bella Tomaino 0-1-1, Alexa Grenier 1-0-2, Mackenzie Mori 1-2-5, Alison Wagner 2-2-6, Totals 13-6-38.
NEWINGTON (19-1):	Lilly Ferguson 5-5-15, Karissa Zocco 1-0-2, Adriana Romano 1-0-3, Marlee Zocco 3-0-9, Arianna Barnes 0-2-2, Selah Prignano 0-2-2, Belca Cucuta 5-2-15, Kendall Miller 2-1-7. Totals 17-12-56.
W	7 13 5 13 - 38
N	12 5 25 13 - 56
Note:	Ferguson had 8 rebounds, K. Zocco had 6 assists, 5 steals and M. Zocco had 5 rebounds, 4 assists.
NEW BRITAIN 44, ROCKY HILL 32	
NEW BRITAIN (11-8):	Adrianna Fienza 3-0-7, Kiatyanna Denmark 3-1-7, Xandra Silva 4-1-12, Layla Mejia 4-0-8, Tajah Cooper 0-1-1, Jamilly Carter 3-0-6, Kaylee Cahill 1-0-3. Totals 18-3-44.
ROCKY HILL (11-9):	Abigail Boutin 2-0-4, Alyssa Gau 4-0-8, Maleena Muzio 0-0-0, Kate Oostendorp 2-2-2, Christina DeNovellis 8-2-18. Totals 14-4-32.
NB	7 14 13 10 - 44
RH	11 4 8 9 - 32
Note:	DeNovellis had a double-double with 11 rebounds, 3 blocks.
CCC-South	BERLIN 48, PLAINVILLE 20
PLAINVILLE (1-18):	Lilly Wazorko 1-4-6, Cookie Montanez 1-0-2, Elyse Brown 2-0-4, Marissa Miller 1-0-2, Sam Thompson 1-2-4, Hallie Anderson 1-0-2. Totals 7-6-20.
BERLIN (13-6):	Brianna DeMoralis 1-0-3, Jenna Wenzel 1-1-3, Janessa Yaconello 2-0-4, Taylor Bellizzi 1-0-2, Ava Desmarais 1-0-2, Rylee Copp 1-0-2, Clare McGeever 2-2-7, Emma Ellison 1-0-2, Kailia Halkias 2-1-5, Kailee DeMaio 4-0-9, Maddy Sadowski 1-1-3, Lindsey Eckrote 1-2-4, Peyton Nadeau 0-2-2. Totals 18-9-48.
P	4 2 2 12 - 20
B	19 12 6 11 - 48
Note:	Halkias had 8 rebounds and McGeever had 4 steals.
BRISTOL EASTERN 63, BRISTOL CENTRAL 51	
BRISTOL CENTRAL (9-10):	Ella Watson 1-0-2, Brooke Watson 7-2-20, Kaley Laird 1-0-2, Ariana Rivera 7-1-15, Lillian Sirois 3-0-6, Callie Lodovico 3-0-6. Totals 22-3-51.
BRISTOL EASTERN (8-10):	Taigan Parent 5-3-16, Vanessa Drury 2-0-5, Ciara Collins 7-7-24, Leah Roy 0-2-2, Janessa Gonzalez 3-5-11, Emma Stavens 2-0-5. Totals 19-17-63.
BC	9 11 10 21 - 51
BE	14 11 23 15 - 63

MIDDLETOWN 64, LEWIS MILLS 36	
CCC-East	E.O. SMITH 62, TOLLAND 20
CCC-West	SIMS BURY 46, GLASTONBURY 31
SIMS BURY (18-2):	Lauren Sadia 7-1-18, Kate Perlick 2-0-5, Olivia Jarvis 5-2-12, Faye Kaplinski 5-0-10. Totals 19-3-46.
GLASTONBURY (12-8):	Sydney Kehl 1-0-2, Kiley Feeney 2-0-5, Gisel Astiasaran 3-2-9, Madison Handranah 4-0-11, Lily Woodworth 2-0-4. Totals 12-2-31.
S	16 6 14 10 - 46
G	8 7 7 9 - 31
SOUTHINGTON 56, NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 37	
CONARD 46, HALL 34	
NCCC	GRANBY 40, SMSA 16
Shoreline	CROMWELL 50, MORGAN 46
CROMWELL (14-4):	Grace Mikan 2-0-6, Cameryn Hickey 1-2-4, Brynn Kovacs 2-0-4, Jessica Grodzicki 7-0-16, Nevaeh Clark 6-0-12, Adela Cecunjanin 3-2-8. Totals 21-4-50.
MORGAN (9-9):	Caeley Ayer 5-6-18, Katie Martin 4-1-9, Ava Johnson 4-2-11, Eva O'Sullivan 1-0-2, Sofie Passante 2-0-6. Totals 16-9-46.
C	11 11 16 12 - 50
M	2 18 17 9 - 46
Note:	Clark had 6 assists, 5 rebounds, 4 steals and Hickey and Cecunjanin each had 8 rebounds.
EAST HAMPTON 47, NORTH BRANFORD 45	
NORTH BRANFORD (14-6):	Callie Holzer 5-0-11, Braeden LeBeau 7-0-14, Keana Criscuolo 6-1-15, Delaney Norman 2-0-5, Marissa Riccardio 0-0-0. Totals 20-1-45.
EAST HAMPTON (17-2):	Olivia DeMartino 2-3-8, Liana Salamone 7-4-20, Jackie Russell 4-1-11, Jordan Murphy 1-0-2, Madison Yorker 3-0-6. Totals 17-8-47.
NB	10 15 8 12 - 45
EH	12 5 11 19 - 47
COGINCHAUG 38, WESTBROOK 20	
CTC	GOODWIN TECH 28, WOLCOTT TECH 24
GOODWIN TECH (13-5):	Tomoya Bennett 0-2-2, Ericka Clarke 3-2-8, Megan Lukasewski 1-3-6, Ayalise Hernandez 2-0-4, Dezaraya Trusty 1-0-2, Mariela Cartagena 2-2-6. Totals 9-9-28.
WOLCOTT TECH (11-7):	Olivia Steeves 1-0-2, Yennifer Sarmiento 3-1-7, Kaylee Bryant 1-0-2, Mazie Connolly 1-0-2, Sierra Doyle 2-0-4, Abigail Williams 3-1-7. Totals 11-2-24.
GT	2 6 9 11 - 28
WT	1 5 4 14 - 24
Note:	Lukasewski had 12 rebounds.
WINDHAM TECH 68, ELLIS TECH 32	
CRAL	MLC 34, ACHIEVEMENT FIRST 33
SCC	MERCY 70, LAURALTON HALL 46
LAURALTON HALL (4-14):	Morgan White 1-0-3, Catherine Bosse 4-4-15, Maura Bosse 2-0-5, Lauren Marsden 1-0-2, Lila Pinho 5-3-13, Maddie DiNatali 3-0-8. Totals 16-7-46.
MERCY (16-4):	Avery Kohs 2-0-4, Sophie Hedge 5-3-14, Kate Donlan 1-0-2, Ava Giansiracusa 4-3-21, Melina Ford 2-1-5, Winnie Ciccarello 1-0-3, Lily Schoonmaker 4-0-8, Caelyn McMahone-Egan 2-0-6, Mercedes Artalza 2-3-7. Totals 26-10-70.
LH	6 21 11 8 - 46
M	13 18 28 11 - 70
ECC	BACON ACADEMY 61, PLAINFIELD 28
PLAINFIELD (12-8):	Taylor Keefe 1-0-2, Karley Belisle 5-0-12, Hannah Irons 1-0-2, Morgan Yanush 0-3-3, Allison Conger 1-0-2, Maddie Nordstrom 2-1-7. Totals 10-4-28.
BACON ACADEMY (18-2):	Grace Saldana 0-1-1, Emily Ferrigno 1-0-2, Valerie Luizzi 6-4-18, Katelyn Novak 2-2-7, Marissa Nudd 8-1-19, Cara Shea 2-1-6, Elizabeth Glover 1-2-4, Emma Mancuso 1-0-2, Veronica Smith 1-0-2. Totals 22-11-61.
P	5 8 4 11 - 28
BA	18 16 15 12 - 61
Note:	Luizzi had 5 rebounds, 4 steals, Nudd had 4 rebounds, 3 assists and Shea had 4 steals.
NVL	ST. PAUL 76, WILBY 25
ST. PAUL (13-4):	Halleigh Orzel 2-0-4, Audrey Tice 3-0-7, Izzy Leggett 1-0-2, Olivia Dahn 3-0-7, Abbey Stanford 0-1-1, Nadia Reimer 6-2-14, Zoey Rubins 1-0-2, Emily Ronalter 4-0-8, Sarah Lindquist 2-0-4, Alexis Tierpack 1-1-3, Rebecca Kelly 5-0-10, Ava Stevenson 4-0-8, Natalia Reimer 2-0-6. Totals 34-4-76.
WILBY (2-15):	Jay Jimenez 1-0-3, Johanna Jimenez 1-0-2, Shar Morgan 0-0-0, Joelys Rodriguez 3-0-8, Rae Lewis 6-0-12. Totals 11-0-25.

SP	23 17 24 12 - 76
W	3 6 9 7 - 25
Note:	Leggett had 10 rebounds and Tice had 8 assists.
Others	BOLTON 51, HALE-RAY 21
BOLTON (14-4):	Emma Diehl 7-1-16, Niya Islam 3-0-8, Isabel Kenney 2-0-5, Julia Zimmerman 3-0-6, Makenna Graves 1-0-2, Emily DeNunzio 5-1-11, Allie Buonomano 1-1-3. Totals 22-3-51.
HALE-RAY (0-18):	Kenzie Purdell 3-0-7, Julie Anderson 3-0-9, Makenzie Albert 0-0-0, Gabby Aguilera 1-0-2, Brooke Praskiewicz 1-1-3. Totals 8-1-21.
B	20 16 7 8 - 51
HR	7 1 10 3 - 21
Note:	M. Graves had 8 rebounds, Islam had 5 assists and Diehl had 6 steals.

GIRLS HOCKEY

Others	AVON CO-OP 10, FAIRFIELD CO-OP 2
BOYS SWIMMING	
CCC	SOUTHINGTON 92, MIDDLETOWN 89
Note:	Alex Rosanio took first in diving, setting a new Southington school record with a 301.05. Peter Zaleswski (200/500 free), Landon Colby (200 IM/100 fly) and Matt Niro (50/100 free) were double winners for Southington.
WINDSOR 96, SOUTH WINDSOR 82	
SCC	HAMDEN 96, LYMAN HALL/COGINCHAUG 81
Note:	Kendrick Lagamao won the 200 IM and 100 breast for Lyman Hall.
H-K/MORGAN/VALLEY 96, WEST HAVEN 76	

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Others	NFA 128-4, OLD LYME 101
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TUESDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

ALL GAMES AT 6:45 P.M. UNLESS NOTED	
BOYS BASKETBALL	
CCC-North:	Wethersfield at Bulkeley, 5:15 p.m.; Windsor at New Britain; Bloomfield at Rocky Hill
CCC-South:	Bristol Central at Middletown; Plainville at Lewis Mills
CCC-East:	Tolland at Manchester
CCC-West:	Farmington at Glastonbury
CCC-Inter:	Simsbury at Platt; RHAM at Berlin; Northwest Catholic at East Catholic; Bristol Eastern at South Windsor; East Hartford at Newington; Enfield at Hartford Public; Southington at Maloney; E.O. Smith at Conard
NCCC:	HMTCA at Rockville; Bolton at Canton; Coventry at Windsor Locks; Somers at East Granby; East Windsor at Stafford
Shoreline:	Old Saybrook at Old Lyme, 5 p.m.; Cromwell at Valley Regional, 7 p.m.; Morgan at Haddam-Killingworth, 7 p.m.
CTC:	Whitney Tech at Vinal Tech, 5:30 p.m.; Wilcox Tech at O'Brien Tech, 6 p.m.; Grasso Tech at Cheney Tech, 6:30 p.m.
CRAL:	Innovation at Capital Prep, 6 p.m.; Achievement First at Parish Hill, 6 p.m.; Weaver at Aerospace, 7 p.m.; Civic Leadership at MLC, 7 p.m.
SCC:	Xavier at Guilford, 7 p.m.; Sheehan at Foran, 7 p.m.; Cheshire at Lyman Hall, 7 p.m.
ECC:	Killingly at Windham, 7 p.m.; Waterford at Bacon Academy, 7 p.m.
Others:	Goodwin Tech at Seymour, 7 p.m.; Putnam at University, 7:15 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL	
CCC-Inter:	Windsor at Berlin, 3:45 p.m.; Tolland at Platt, 3:45 p.m.; Hall at South Windsor, 3:45 p.m.; Hall at Bloomfield, 5:30 p.m.
NCCC:	Stafford at East Windsor, 5 p.m.; Rockville at HMTCA, 5:30 p.m.; Canton at Bolton, 6 p.m.; East Granby at Somers; Windsor Locks at Coventry
Shoreline:	Valley Regional at Cromwell, 6 p.m.; Old Saybrook at Old Lyme, 7 p.m.; Haddam-Killingworth at Morgan, 7 p.m.; Portland at Hale-Ray, 7 p.m.
CTC:	Cheney Tech at Grasso Tech, 4:30 p.m.; Vinal Tech at Ellis Tech, 6 p.m.; Prince Tech at Wilcox Tech, 6:30 p.m.
CRAL:	MLC at Innovation, 4:15 p.m.
NVL:	St. Paul at Wolcott, 7 p.m.
Others:	Classical at Whitney Tech, 4:30 p.m.; Watertown at Bristol Eastern, 5:30 p.m.; Capital Prep at Waterford,